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## Morocco sends conference invitations

RABAT (Agencies) — King Hassan of Morocco has sent envoys around the world to invite heads of state to a Middle East and North Africa economic summit in Casablanca at the end of October, the government daily Le Matin said on Wednesday. It said nine ambassadors were touring Arab, African, Asian, European and American capitals and several international institutions with invitations from the king. The conference due to be held in Casablanca's royal palace will be organised from Oct. 30 to Nov. 1 jointly by the World Economic Forum (WEF) based in Geneva and the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations. It is to be attended by representatives of governments and international business interests to promote economic development in the Middle East as part of the peace process. U.S. President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin will be honorary co-chairmen of the summit presided by King Hassan. WEF said it was expected that the summit would be attended notably by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, along with numerous top executives from multinationals.

# Jordan Times

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## King: No Jerusalem visit at anytime soon

Support of Parliament for peace moves does away with thought of referendum at this point in time

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein said Wednesday that much as he, an Arab Muslim Hashemite, would like to visit Jerusalem, the visit would not take place any time soon. The King, in an interview with Radio Monte Carlo, also said he believed that the support that the two-thirds of the deputies in the 80-member Lower House of Parliament extended to his moves for peace with Israel was sufficient endorsement under the Kingdom's Constitution. As such, the King indicated, there was no need at present for a referendum among the people — an idea that he had first raised after signing the historic Washington Declaration with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on July 25.

"When I took the decision of ending the state of war with Israel I was confident that I was supported by the majority of the people of Jordan," the King said. "We are seeking peace within the framework of an overall peace in the whole region, guaranteeing the rights of all parties," the King said.

The King ruled out the possibility of a visit to Arab Jerusalem on Saturday on the eve of the anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad's birthday, and said despite his keen desire to visit the Holy City, "the visit will not take place as soon as some people imagine."

On the peace process, the King noted that negotiations were continuing and said the results so far were encouraging.

"The general feeling is positive and constructive and we have been feeling that the two sides have real concern to see rapid progress achieved in the discussion of various issues so that these efforts would be crowned with a peace treaty," the King said.

"There is a lot of issues that require discussion and there are outstanding issues like the delineation of borders and the water resources question which need more time and efforts. But it should be noted that the atmosphere of the talks is encouraging and I believe that the negotiations are moving in the right direction," he said.

"The recent developments in the region have prompted us to reach a conviction that we should move and take steps towards peace, to regain our rights," the King said.

"We moved in the wake of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and the moves taken by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," the King said. "As for the Parliament support I am quite happy with their backing," King Hussein said.

"We will not submit to the Parliament any formula until the whole picture has been completed or we could also organise a referendum and invite the people to express their view," the King said.

As to the opposition, he said, "I believe it is a minority and does not represent the views of the majority of the people of Jordan but this question is not up for discussion yet since the outcome of the ongoing negotiations has not yet crystallised."

Replying to a question about prospects of coordinating Jordan's stand with that of the Palestinian side, the King

(Continued on page 7)

## Dead Sea talks end today with no major breakthroughs on core issues

### Jordan, Israel agree to cooperate in tourism

From Narmeen Murad at Moriah Plaza Dead Sea Hotel

BILATERAL negotiations between Israel and Jordan will end today having registered progress in most committees but falling short of any ground-breaking agreements.

However, an agreement was reached Wednesday under which Israel and Jordan will soon sell joint organised tours to holidaymakers taking in both countries.

Jordanian Tourism Minister Mohammad Al Adwan and his Israeli counterpart Uzi Baram met at this hotel on the Israeli shore of the Dead Sea to draw up a joint tourism strategy.

Jordanian experts accompanying Dr. Adwan propounded ideas on tourism development for several days. They're not terming the visits to Israeli and Jordanian sites at a meeting as a joint tour operators.

The tour would be sold worldwide, especially in the United States.

The two ministers agreed to set up a joint tourism planning committee to work out detailed arrangements.

It was the first time a Jordanian minister ventured inside Israel since the two countries signed the Washington Declaration last

month, ending a 46-year state of belligerence.

The countries hope joint packaging will increase overall tourism. Israel currently attracts almost two million visitors annually, about four times more than Jordan.

Dr. Adwan met with Israeli and Jordanian travel agents after his meeting with Baram.

"This region has suffered far too long," he said. "We need to make our people in the area feel directly the real-

ity of peace. Tourism is one of the main sectors that will be affected."

Dr. Adwan noted Israeli and Jordanian citizens not holding a third country passport will not be able to cross the border before the signing

(Continued on page 7)



Tourism Minister Mohammad Adwan (right) Moriah Plaza Dead Sea Hotel on Wednesday with his Israeli counterpart Uzi Baram at the (photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## King visits RJ technical services

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday visited the technical department of the national carrier, Royal Jordanian (RJ), at the Queen Alia International Airport.

The King, who was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Hamzeh Ben Al Hussein, was received by RJ President and Chief Executive Nader Al Dahabi

and senior airline officials.

The King voiced full confidence in the airline's management and development abilities. The King stressed the importance of training that helps raise the level of performance and noted that RJ will have an important and positive role as the Middle East peace process begins to yield results.



## Judicial updating, central purchasing, fair commissions, organised approach to foreign investment among Royal Commission's tasks

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has emphasised the concept of an all-embracing approach to modernise Jordan's dealings vis-a-vis internal and external issues as part of the responsibilities entrusted with the newly-established Royal Commission for Reform and Modernisation (RCRM).

Addressing the first meeting of the commission, which he chairs under a directive from His Majesty King Hussein issued last week, the Crown Prince on Monday said the panel's approach to its task should be deep and cover every important aspect of public funds and public service.

Following is a summary of the Crown Prince's address to the commission:

Allow me to begin by extending a warm welcome to all of you, both in your capacity as dignitaries in your own respective positions of responsibility, and as individuals possessed of extensive expertise in the domains of law, financial auditing and general institutional endeavour within the overall framework of the administrative set-up that looks to us expectantly for guidance and promotion.



In today's dialogue we wish to stress the fact that the judiciary, which by the nature of its own particular function is not in daily contact with the public, must play the role envisaged within the scope of implementation and follow-up pertaining to all legislation. Indeed, we must recognise that, were the relevant valid laws properly administered, there would in reality have been a congenial atmosphere conducive to investment. To this effect, there is a clear reference in His Majesty's message regarding new prospects for cooperation among areas and regions, and regarding the European Community, Japan

(Continued on page 7)

## Abequa children flown out with maternal aunt; family protests

By Rana Hussein with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Two New Jersey children caught in an international custody dispute after their father killed their mother and brought them to his native Jordan were on their way back to the United States Wednesday.

Jordanian officials escorted six-year-old Lisa Abequa and her brother, Sami, 3, to the airport for a flight to the United States via Germany, according to well-placed sources, quoted by the AP.

Their maternal aunt, Nesime Dokur, of Paterson, New Jersey, flew out with them, said the sources.

"The saga over the custody of the two children was resolved," said one of the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

They would not give details of the flight. But the only scheduled connection to Germany Wednesday was a Royal Jordanian flight to

Berlin which took off at 11:35 a.m. Airline and airport officials refused to give any information.

The sources also would not say how the dispute was resolved between Mohammad I. Abequa, who has confessed to killing his wife, and Ms. Dokur.

But the children's paternal aunt, Mariam Abequa, said the children were taken out of the country without her family's knowledge.

Mr. Abequa, 46, fled to

Jordan with the children after killing his estranged wife, Nihal Abequa, 40, at her Parsippany-Troy Hills, New Jersey, apartment, on July 4. The women's body was

(Continued on page 7)



Minister of State Abdullah Jazi on Wednesday meets with members of the Abequa family, including Samiha Abequa (left), grandmother of two Abequa children who were flown out, gathered in front of the Prime Ministry (photo by Rana Hussein)

## Tourism first fruit of peace moves, but is Jordan ready for the wave?

By Ghadeer Taber

Special to the Jordan Times

SITTING next to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Prime Minister Abdul Salam Matruh at the Dead Sea hotel, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres holds up a copy of the Israeli far-reaching peace time development plans for the region.

"I bet Jordan has one of the best Israeli foreign minister of the master plan which envisions replacing the coils of razor wire and land mines separating the two countries with the Middle East Riviera."

He was only partly right. Jordan, according to official and unofficial sources, is largely on the receiving end of Israel's well-developed ideas on tourism development and has not yet drawn up its own master plan for tourism, now the country's third largest foreign currency earner.

The government has commissioned several master plans, including one for the Dead Sea, Petra and the southern parts of the country. But the Ministry of Tourism, the ultimate executive authority in tourism, concedes that such plans should have been completed a long time ago.

"We are behind the

Israelis in tourism," admitted Minister of Tourism Mohammad Adwan. "The tourism sector has stagnated for a long time. It has not been a priority in the national plans," the minister told the Jordan Times Tuesday after a brain storming session with negotiators, officials and businessmen in the field, participating in talks on tourism with Israel.

"But, on the other hand, we are getting prepared as fast as possible. The government is now giving priority to tourism development," Dr. Adwan said.

Sources close to the talks at the Israeli side of the Dead Sea say the possibil-

ities are endless if the private and public sector get their act together.

"The Israelis are not smarter than us," said one negotiator. "They are better organised. Most importantly the private and public sectors are one unit promoting tourism. The public sector is at the service of tourism. Here it was just the opposite for a long time."

"The ministry is allocated very little money. Little has been done and we are running out of time," he said.

Although the opening of a border crossing for third country nationals in Aqaba is expected to attract

thousands of extra tourists every month, officials and many in the private sector warn that unless Jordan changes its ways, the Kingdom will lose out to Israel's sophisticated tourist trade.

"Tourism will explode in peace time and we have to be on the train or we will miss everything," said Zaid Gousous, who runs a restaurant in the scenic Roman city of Umm Qais in the north of the country, where a second border crossing is expected to open soon. He is planning to open a small village hotel in Umm Qais and develop the Himma Roman baths near the ancient city.

For the tourism industry in Jordan the dilemma is threefold: The absence of any powers in the hands of the Ministry of Tourism, including legislative shortcomings, the shortage of skilled employees as well as the relegation of the importance of tourism in the government's view.

But this may be changing, according to Dr. Adwan.

The Cabinet recently committed itself to allocating JD 14 million for infrastructure projects for Petra in the year 1995. The tourism industry is also counting on foreign assistance in developing the potential goldmine. The United

States Aid Agency, USAID, has given Jordan JD 1 million for immediate improvements of tourism sites and has pledged \$14 million over the next five years. The Japanese, the European Community and the World Bank have also promised to help.

The private sector agrees that it must be in the forefront of the tourism industry but insists that the government must provide the necessary infrastructure, including water, sewage, telephone, roads and parking to many of the country's tourist sites.

"The ministry's budget is minuscule for what is required. The government

apparently does not regard tourism or the ministry as very important for the country, that is a grave mistake," said an informed source. "We have to understand that in order to bring in money, we have to spend money."

Munir Nassar of International Trades, one of three businessmen negotiating with Israel, agreed that there was a great deal of work to be done so the country could cash in on the peace dividend.

"We should have started developing a strategy three years ago when we went to Madrid," said Mr. Nassar.

(Continued on page 7)



## Yemen president: Armed forces must be apolitical

SANAA (Agencies) — President Ali Abdullah Saleh has said that any personnel wanting to pursue political activities would have to leave their ranks.

"As of today there will be no party affiliations within the ranks of the armed forces and the security," President Saleh told a meeting of army officers.

"He who wants to remain a member of a political party has every right to do so, but he has to submit his resignation from the armed forces," he said, in remarks broadcast by Sanaa Television.

"Loyalty in the armed forces will be for God, the country, the revolution and the unity... no loyalty to any party or political organisation."

Northern and southern Yemeni forces fought a two-month civil war which ended on July 7 when Mr. Saleh's northern troops captured Aden, capital of a separatist state declared by former Yemeni Vice-President Ali Salem Al Beidh.

Mr. Saleh and Mr. Beidh took former North and South Yemen in 1990 into an uneasy union. Differences between the two men led to the civil war which started on May 4.

Forces of the formerly Marxist and more secular South, and the more traditional North were never integrated under the united state and continued to follow orders from their pre-union commanders. Each was virtually under the control of its pre-merger ruler.



Ali Abdullah Saleh

Although the constitution and laws governing political parties state that the armed forces are apolitical and ban political affiliations, these provisions were largely ignored over the past four years and the two armed forces were largely drawn on the basis of party affiliation, political sources said.

"Party membership cards will be withdrawn from the commanders in order to ensure the safety of the armed forces and the safety of the country," Mr. Saleh said on Tuesday.

Following the end of the civil war, the armed forces started the process of integrating former southern and northern army units. "One of the most urgent steps in the process of rebuilding the armed forces is the restructuring, re-formation and the integration of

the armed forces," Mr. Saleh said.

Before the end of the war "there were virtually two armed forces, two presidents, two governments and two ministers of defence," he added. "Today, there is one army, one president and one, defence minister."

Meanwhile, the pro-government wing of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) announced Tuesday that its central committee would elect new leaders in a meeting on Sept. 1.

The Sanaa-based "temporary committee," which rallied to Mr. Saleh, said in a statement that the meeting "will elect a legitimate national leadership which will fix a date and a venue for the 4th YSP general congress."

Most YSP officials went into exile after the end of the two-month war.

Temporary committee spokesman Yehia Mansur Abu Asbah told AFP that 45 members are in Yemen, and a delegation will be sent to convince others to take part in the meeting so that the quorum figure of 56 out of 110 is reached.

Yemeni Foreign Minister Mohammad Basandawa on Aug. 11 warned that the YSP will only be allowed to play a role in Yemeni politics if it expels its "separatist leaders."

The warning followed a three-day meeting of the YSP politburo in Damascus, where party officials expressed their "attachment to the unity" of Yemen but ignored a call from Mr. Saleh to oust Mr. Beidh.



HAMAS FUNERAL: Palestinians carry the body of Hamas member Tareq Abu Arab, 24, 15 in Jerusalem late Tuesday. He was wounded in a shooting on Aug. 15 in a hospital (AFP photo)

## Algerian TV employee killed

ALGIERS (AP) — An employee for state-run television was murdered Tuesday on the western outskirts of Algiers, while the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) freed the director of a magazine kidnapped three days earlier.

ENTV officials said that Khaled Bouherbal, 46, an administrative employee, was knifed to death Tuesday morning by assailants in an area called Domaine Bouchaoui.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the killing, but journalists and media employees have been a prime target of extremists battling to overthrow the military backed government and install an Islamic state. At least 15 journalists have been killed.

The Islamic Salvation Army, an umbrella force of armed groups, said it was freeing Ibrahim Taouchicht, director of the magazine "Horoscope," who would carry a warning to other journalists.

It was not immediately known what was contained in the warning message. His publication confirmed that Mr. Taouchicht was freed and in good health.

The Islamic Salvation

Army is attached to the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), the banned political movement which says it was denied a ballot box victory when the army cancelled January 1992 elections it was winning. The move set off the conflict, which has left more than 4,000 people dead.

Mr. Taouchicht, 45, was kidnapped Sunday in front of a complex housing Algiers' newspapers by a group of men dressed as police. An initial communiqué had said he would be tried by an Islamic tribunal.

The armed group's latest statement said he "repented before God and vowed to no longer spread vile morals among youth and the Muslim community."

His magazine, started a few months ago, features paranormal events and sometimes carries lists of singles hoping to meet other men and women based on their astrological signs.

The group delivered a warning some 10 days ago threatening reprisals against France after French authorities detained suspected FIS sympathisers on suspicion of plotting terrorist acts against France.

Radicals disguised as police and claiming to belong to a rival organisation, the Armed Islamic Group, killed three French guards and two French consular officials in Algiers on Aug. 3.

After the attack France questioned thousands of people in identity checks, banned five Islamic publications and ordered 23 people for suspected links to militants.

Algerian authorities are trying to break the deadlock with a new dialogue planned for Sunday with eight opposition parties.

But two of the parties firmly opposed to political Islam, the Rally for Culture and Democracy and Ettahaddi, the former communist party, on Monday decline to participate.

A third party, the moderate Islamic Hamas, said Tuesday it would only take part if the FIS was invited and if imprisoned front leaders were freed.

The five other parties asked to take part in the dialogue have not said whether they will do so. But each of them also wants the FIS to join in any discussions, saying including the country's most popular political force is the only way to end the crisis.

## Egypt tries to calm Muslims over population summit

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's population minister, trying to calm Islamic opposition to next month's summit conference on population and development, said on Tuesday a draft document prepared for the meeting did not violate Muslim morality.

Maher Mahran said confusion over the definition and translation of some of the terms in the text had led to misunderstanding.

He also said criticisms of parts of the document by Cairo's Al Azhar University, the world's most prestigious institution of Islamic learning, had been misinterpreted as an attack on the conference itself.

He said references in the Arabic text of the document to improving sex education could be misconstrued as encouraging sexual activity, rather than teaching family planning.

"The word sex when mentioned in Arabic gives the impression of pornography... it gives the impression we are going to educate these young people into the joys of sex, which is not the case," Mr.

Mahran told officials preparing for the conference.

He said fears expressed by Islamic groups that the document would encourage "homosexual couples to bring up families" were also misplaced.

He said the United Nations had already defined families as "the husband, wife, and their children... we are not going to redefine principles agreed on at previous meetings."

He said as a Muslim country, Egypt would not "support any trend of homosexuality." This is categorically mentioned in the Holy Koran so it is non-negotiable.

The Azhar, the mosque university set up in Cairo in the 10th century, said last week the U.N. document condones extramarital sex and easy abortion and said parts needed changing to conform with Islamic principles.

"We Muslims know... there is no abortion as method of family planning, but we can use abortion in Islam to save the life of the mother," Mr. Mahran

said.

He said he had met the imam of the Azhar, who had commented on only a few specific points in the document. "The fact that he did not comment on the others means that he approves the rest."

"It is unfortunate that the declaration of Al Azhar was misunderstood... (as) an attack on the conference, which it is not," he added.

Islamic opposition papers in Egypt denounced the planned conference on Tuesday, saying it will go against Muslim morality and promote Western efforts to restrict the growth of Muslim populations.

"The whole Islamic World is anticipating with distaste and condemnation the world conference on population, which Cairo has agreed to host and in which suspicious recommendations that permit abortion, homosexuality and sexual freedom to adolescents will be declared from the most important capital of Islam," said the opposition paper Al Ahrar.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### One held in Karami assassination

BEIRUT (AP) — A magistrate Wednesday reported the first arrest linked to the helicopter bomb blast that killed former Prime Minister Rashid Karami seven years ago. Examining Magistrate Walid Ghamra said a former Lebanese army corporal living in France, Mikhail Zak San'i, had been seized Monday and was in police custody. Mr. Ghamra told reporters San'i was detained and interrogated upon his arrival from Paris on a visit to relatives in Beirut. The magistrate refused to give further details. A bomb planted behind Karami's seat exploded in a military chopper over the Mediterranean Sea on June 1, 1987. The aircraft was transporting the premier from the northern port city of Tripoli, hometown of the Karami clan, to the coastal capital. Karami's death ignited one of the ugliest rounds of fighting in Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war. San'i, 35, a Christian army technician, was serving in north Lebanon at the time of the assassination. Judicial sources said he quit the army and emigrated to France about a year after the killing. The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said San'i denied any involvement in the assassination during the interrogation.

### 1 Iranian charged, 2 freed in Thai case

BANGKOK (AFP) — One Iranian man will stand trial for an attempt to bomb the Israeli embassy here, but two other Iranian suspects in the case have been released, a Thai police official said Wednesday. Hossein Shahriari Far, 26, has been charged with 19 counts of manslaughter and possession of explosives and illegal weapons in a public area, the official said. Two other men, Babak Taberi and Basr Kazemi, both in their 20s, were released late Tuesday for lack of evidence, he said. All three have been in custody since their arrest June 3 at a hotel in the southern Thai city of Hat Yai. A fourth suspect, Mohammad Lotfullah, is still at large and is believed to have left Thailand. On March 17, Thai police literally stumbled across a truck bomb when the vehicle was impounded following a minor traffic accident near the Israeli embassy. The driver had fled the scene. The truck was searched when the owner came to claim it and police discovered a one-tonne home-made bomb and the body of the Thai rental firm driver who was to have delivered the truck to clients.

### U.N. missile team heads for Iraq

BAHRAIN (AP) — Four U.N. weapons experts flew Wednesday to Iraq for preparatory work on long-term monitoring programme for the country's missile industry. The team, headed by American John Larabee, is going to Iraq for two months to "join in the work of establishing the monitoring routine within the missile field," said Roald Opsahl, Bahrain-based regional chief for the U.N. inspectors. The overall U.N. monitoring programme is designed to ensure that the Iraqis cannot resume production of weapons of mass destruction.

### 3 Kurds sentenced for London bombing

LONDON (AP) — Three Kurdish men were sentenced to 12 to 15 years imprisonment Tuesday for bombing Turkish banks in London. Judge Ann Goddard of the central criminal court said the three men — Hikmet Bozaz, 33, Cafer Kovaycin, 30, and Zervet Ozan, 19 — were guilty of attacking three Turkish banks in the British capital last November. Gasoline bombs damaged one of the banks and a British Telecom office next door to one, injuring two people. The attacks came as Turkish buildings were attacked all over Europe, including three other places in London. Leaflets left outside the scenes of the attacks declared: "We are protesting against the genocide attacks by the Turkish state in Kurdistan. We are protesting against the torture and murder of Kurdistan villagers."

### Qadhafi calls for negotiations

TRIPOLI (AFP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has warned the United States and its western allies they will only learn the truth about the 1988 Lockerbie plane bombing through negotiations, not sanctions. "They will have to negotiate with the Libyan people, if they want to resolve the Lockerbie issue and if they want to learn the truth" behind the attack, Col. Qadhafi said in a speech reported by the official agency JANA Wednesday. His comments came after a British deputy said he had been invited to Libya to discuss the affair. Libya has denied any involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am jet which exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland, in December 1988 killing 270 people and has refused to hand over two Libyan suspects for trial. "We won't die under the blockade, nor under all the sanctions that the United States and its allies would impose," Col. Qadhafi told a mass rally in the Awbari desert, 700 kilometres south of Tripoli. British Conservative Party MP Nicholas Fairbairn said on Friday he might visit Libya "in the next few days" at Col. Qadhafi's invitation to discuss the Lockerbie issue.

### Lebanon's casino plans restoration

BEIRUT (R) — The company licensed to reopen Lebanon's Casino du Liban, the Middle East's foremost gambling and entertainment centre before it was wrecked in the 1975-90 civil war, on Wednesday invited bids for its restoration. Compagnie du Casino du Liban, in a newspaper advertisement, said the plan calls for construction of a 150-200 bedroom luxury hotel, a swimming pool and investments which with the refurbishment will total \$50 million. The work should be completed over 36 months, the company, which has a monopoly of gambling in Lebanon, said. Interested parties should submit pre-qualification bids on Sept. 14. Restoring the gambling halls will cost \$15 million, the company said in May. It hopes they will reopen later this year. The casino, overlooking the picturesque bay of Jounieh north of the capital Beirut, was destroyed by fighting between rival militia during the civil war and is now closed. Before the war, the casino, with its Las Vegas-style shows and prime location, was the Middle East's most spectacular gambling and entertainment centre.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 723111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 — Un Sicile De Chansons  
18:00 — Des Plantes Et Des Hommes  
18:30 — News in French  
18:45 — Enquete Au Musee  
19:00 — News in Hebrew  
19:15 — Battlestar Galactica  
20:00 — News in Arabic  
20:30 — Heart of Courage  
21:10 — Murder She Wrote  
22:00 — News in English  
22:20 — Movie of the Week

### PRAYER TIMES

04:32 — Fajr  
05:36 — Sunrise  
12:00 — Dhuhur  
16:19 — Asr  
19:24 — Maghrib  
20:47 — Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Swedish, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632795  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624990  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 625256  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 634328  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 644195  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691  
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will continue their gradual drop thus becoming around average with winds northwesterly moderate to active. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Mis/Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 20/23  
Agaba ..... 26/41  
Deserts ..... 20/36  
Jordan Valley ..... 24/39

Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 35 Agaba 44. Humidity

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

readings: Amman 31 per cent. Agaba 13 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Hanna Mansour ..... 750197  
Dr. Khalid Klob ..... 816715  
Dr. Farouq Nour ..... 786580  
Dr. Salah Al-Usud ..... 649028  
Fire pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asena pharmacy ..... 637025  
Nairoukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644943  
Shmoucin pharmacy ..... 637660  
Nairoukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632  
IRBID:  
Dr. Mohammed Al Khajji 273099  
Al Ouds pharmacy ..... (-)  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Hisham Hysant ..... 532206  
Khalil pharmacy ..... 83417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Emergency 630341  
Rescue 192 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 617101  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 890390  
Public Security Department ..... 636321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 603800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Overseas Calls ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010630  
Central Amman Telephone  
Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 723111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information 08-53220  
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre - 813613/32  
Khalil Medical Centre, J. Amn

AKHIL MATERNITY, J. Amn. 644281/6  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642441/2  
Malha, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmoucin ..... 664171/4  
Shmoucin Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 843402  
Army Medical ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 622403/0  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)983732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990  
BRIDJ:  
Princess Basmah Hospital ..... (02)253553  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... 622403/0  
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital ..... (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by

Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

04:25 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)

09:45 New Delhi (RJ)

10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

10:15 Riyadh (RJ)

10:30 Agaba (RJ)

11:00 Beirut (RJ)

11:00 Colombo (RJ)

11:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

12:15 Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)

12:30 London, Berlin (RJ)

12:30 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)

12:35 Athens (RJ)

12:45 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)

21:00 Rome (RJ)

21:15 Tunis (add) (RJ)

06:30 Larnaca (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:30 Sharjah (AH)

12:30 Abu Dhabi (GF)

12:30 Munich (DE)

14:00 Riyadh (SV)

20:15 Sanaa (TY)

21:20 Cairo (MS)

21:15 Beirut (ME)

21:30 Dubai (EK)

22:20 Istanbul (TK)

01:25 Amsterdam (KL)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:00 Madrid (RJ)

06:00 Casablanca (RJ)

06:45 Beirut (RJ)

08:00 Agaba (RJ)

10:00 Abu Dhabi, Al Ain (RJ)

12:00 Rome (RJ)

12:15 Tunis (add) (RJ)

12:30 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)

12:30 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)

12:35 Paris (RJ)

12:50 Athens (RJ)

13:15 London (RJ)

13:45 Cairo (RJ)

14:00 Toronto (RJ)

20:15 Larnaca (RJ)

20:45 Madrid (RJ)

21:15 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

22:30 Jeddah (RJ)

22:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

22:45 Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:05 Damascus, Paris (AF)

09:15 Damascus, Beirut (ME)

14:10 Algeiras (AF)

14:30 Doha, Bahrain (GF)

14:35 Sharjah (AH)

15:30 Riyadh (SV)

22:15 Istanbul (TK)

22:20 Cairo (MS)

22:30 Dubai (EK)

02:25 Amsterdam (KL)

03:30 Riyadh (SV)

### HJAZ RAILWAY

Dep. Amman ..... 8:00 a.m. every Monday

Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

Arr. Amman ..... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ..... 700/400

Banana ..... 600/300

Banana (Makassar) ..... 120/60

Cabbage ..... 320/220

Carrot ..... 240/180

Cauliflower ..... 280/180

Cucumbers (large) ..... 350/250

Cucumbers (small) ..... 200/120

Eggplant ..... 450/300



## BRIEF

## ination

nesday reported a bomb blast that killed seven years ago. The French, Mikhail Zaid was in police custody and detained and interviewed further details. On June 1, 1987, a car from the northern Karami clan, which was serving in the 1990 civil war. The car was serving in the 1990 civil war. The car was serving in the 1990 civil war.

## in Thai case

will stand trial here, but two other men released, a Thai man, Babak Tabrizi, who was serving in the 1990 civil war. The car was serving in the 1990 civil war. The car was serving in the 1990 civil war.

## for Iraq

weapons experts work on long-range missiles. The work of establishing a missile field, said a U.N. programme is designed to resume production.

## ndon bombing

men were sentenced for bombing the British capital. The British capital was bombed. The British capital was bombed.

## tions

Muammar Qaddafi, western allies they 1988 Lockerbie. The people, if they want to leave, they should go. The people, if they want to leave, they should go.

## restoration

used to reopen the Middle East's first before it was used for construction. The Middle East's first before it was used for construction.

## AZ RAILWAY

train. The train was used for construction. The train was used for construction.

## MARKET PRICES

flower price in the market. The flower price in the market.



JORDANIAN GENEROSITY: Mrs. Kawab and Mrs. Mango Wednesday makes a donation of JD 500,000 to the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) to finance new projects at the Hlail Hospital which is operated by the JNRCS. Receiving the donations from Mrs. Mango is JNRCS President Mohamad Hadid. Attending the ceremony also are Ali Qasbi and JNRCS official Fahd Al Ijeh (right).

## Indian foreign secretary to visit

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The foreign secretary of India is scheduled to pay a brief visit to Jordan next week for talks on bilateral relations and the latest developments in the Middle East peace process.

K. Srinivasan, the senior-most bureaucrat in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, will also exchange views with Jordanian officials on international issues ahead of the annual General Assembly beginning in September, said the Indian ambassador to Jordan, A.K. Bodhiraja. The official arrives Aug. 23 and leaves the same day for Syria. After a one-day visit to Damascus, he will proceed to Lebanon before flying out of the region. The visits are mainly billed as familiarisation trips for Mr. Srinivasan in the wake of the latest developments in the Middle East peace process. India is an ardent supporter of Arab peace efforts and is a participant in the multilateral phase of the peace process launched in Madrid, Spain, in September 1991. India established di-

plomatic relations with Israel in early 1993 and exchanged ambassadors.

On the bilateral level, Ambassador Bodhiraja said, there is no "outstanding issue" for Mr. Srinivasan's talks here. "It is an opportunity for an exchange of views on the peace process as well as issues that might come up during the General Assembly session starting in September."

"Constant consultations are highly important for bilateral relations," noted the ambassador. "Hopefully, Mr. Srinivasan's visit will give another boost to Jordanian-Indian relations on various levels."

Tentative meetings have been scheduled between Mr. Srinivasan and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan, Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Nayef Hadid and the heads of the Political Department and the Department of Relations with International Organizations.

Ambassador Bodhiraja noted that Mr. Srinivasan would be the first senior Indian foreign ministry official to visit Jordan after the August 1992 visit of

then Foreign Minister Eduardo Faleiro.

Indian Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Golan Naji Assad visited Jordan early this year in a tourism promotion campaign. However, his discussions here went beyond the issue of tourism and covered political and economic relations between India and Jordan, including the conflicts in Southern Asia and the situation in Kashmir.

Ambassador Bodhiraja described Jordanian-Indian relations as excellent. He said Indian imports of Jordanian phosphates and potash had picked up this year after a marked fall in 1993.

India, once the largest importer of Jordanian products, has fallen to the third place, partly because of a slack in the international market for phosphate and potash.

Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) Director-General Sameh Madani said recently that he expected the situation to improve this year after intense efforts. Simultaneously, Jordanian imports from India are also rising.

## UNICEF to finance \$5m in programmes

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will provide \$5 million to finance several health, education and planning projects in Jordan in the next five years under an agreement signed on Wednesday.

The agreement, signed by Minister of Planning Hisham Al Khatib and UNICEF Jordan Area Representative Victoria Risip, substantially increases UNICEF assistance to the Kingdom and has a provision to extend the amount to \$10 million subject to availability of funds.

The accord is related to a master plan of operations for 11 programmes which will be implemented in cooperation among UNICEF, the ministries of Health, Education and Planning and various other public and non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the Ministry of Planning said.

The main programmes in the health sector covered under the accord are five national campaigns to expand immunisation, control of diarrhoeal diseases, control of acute respiratory

infections, safe motherhood and maternal health.

In the education sector, the programmes include an "early childhood development" and "basic education" programmes. Three other programmes, the development of needy rural and urban areas, advocacy of child rights and development of information systems, are also part of the cooperation agreement.

UNICEF assistance to Jordan until the Gulf crisis of 1990-91 was around \$200,000 per year. When Jordan faced serious difficulties with the massive return of expatriates from the Gulf following the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, UNICEF spent about \$6 million to help the Kingdom.

Fears that the sudden influx in population could lead to serious setbacks to the achievements Jordan made over the years in improving health standards have receded after the Kingdom, with help mainly from UNICEF, managed to contain the fallout by improvements in the health sector.

As a result, the infant



Planning Minister Hisham Al Khatib and UNICEF Jordan Area Representative Victoria Risip on Wednesday sign an agreement under which the U.N. agency will finance programmes in Jordan (Petra photo)

mortality remains at 32 per 1,000 live births, one of the lowest in the region. Between 1991 and 1994, UNICEF financed programmes in Jordan worth \$5 million. UNICEF officials explained that the agreement

signed on Wednesday makes a definite allocation of \$5 million in the next five years and includes a provision which could raise the amount to \$10 million subject to availability of funds. This would move Jordan

into one of the recipients of per capita UNICEF help among countries of similar background. UNICEF maintains its Middle East and North Africa Regional Office in Amman, having moved here from Beirut in 1985.

## Heatwave subsides, temperatures to drop

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In Amman temperatures Wednesday dropped to 34°C from a scorching 40°C on Monday and Tuesday, said the Department of Meteorology.

A department spokesperson told the Jordan Times Wednesday that expected temperatures Thursday and Friday will be 32°C during the day, dropping to 21°C at night.

The department earlier said that the heatwave which affected Jordan along with the other parts of the eastern Mediterranean was caused by a high depression originating in India and extending to the Arabian peninsula and Jordan.

According to the spokesperson heatwaves during August, the hottest month of the year, are not uncommon noting that the country had witnessed soaring temperatures up to 42°C in 1956 and 1985.

As a result of the current scorcher, water distribution programmes to the capital's districts were disrupted this week, and many areas did not receive their share, according to the Ministry of Water and Irrigation.

A statement by the ministry Wednesday said that the higher altitude districts of the capital were mostly affected by the shortage of supplies, but the ministry was arranging for water tankers to transport water to these affected areas.

The statement expected the water distribution programme to resume regular delivery with the end of the heatwave.

## Contest opens to barley farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture will grant financial and in-kind prizes memorial certificates to farmers who excel in producing barley on their lands which receive between 200 and 300 millimetres of rain annually, according to an announcement Wednesday by Minister of Agriculture Mansour Ben Tarif.

Mr. Ben Tarif said that farmers eligible for the contest should be growing their cereal in the Ramtha area, Madaba or Karak governorates, and prizes will be distributed by the ministry after the 1994-95 agricultural season and harvest.

Noting that the programme will be executed in cooperation with the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) under the Mashreq Project, the minister said that the move was aimed at giving incentives to local farmers to increase their output of barley which is considered a main animal feed in Jordan for which there is an increasing demand each year.

The Mashreq Project which is being executed in Jordan as well as Syria and Iraq, is aimed at increasing the productivity of barley. could use such equipment and knowledge to develop a programme of weapons of mass destruction. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin also intends to lobby the U.S. administration to try to sway international opinion that Iran has ambitions to become a nuclear nation and backs international terrorism, the official added. The issue is to top the agenda at next week's scheduled talks between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl, he said.

## 40% of ministry scholarships to go to promising needy students

## Ministry plans school building programme

AMMAN (Petra) — Of the total number of university scholarships awarded by the Ministry of Higher Education 40 per cent will go to promising needy students starting the coming 1994-95 academic year, Minister of Higher Education Rabea Saoud announced Wednesday.

Addressing the press at his office, the minister said that the decision on the scholarships was taken in line with new ministry plans to award eligible students.

The ministry will select needy students from the various governorates taking into consideration family financial statements obtained from the National Aid Fund, the Zakat Fund and the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development as well as the Ministry of Social Development, said Dr. Saoud.

Twenty per cent of the scholarships will go to the children of civil servants, and 20 per cent will benefit other promising students, added

the minister.

The ministry has raised to 2,000 up from 1,100, the number of scholarships for the coming academic year, but it has cancelled living allowances which it used to offer monthly to students with scholarships, said Dr. Saoud. It will continue to pay students' tuition, the minister added.

A ministry committee is currently studying the possibility of further increasing the number of scholarships to students in the coming years, especially those wishing to study sharia (Islamic law), Arabic and history, he added.

Referring to scholarships to Jordanian students to study abroad, Dr. Saoud said that the ministry is annually offered 358 scholarship from Arab, Islamic and foreign nations and this year, 3,800 students are competing for those scholarships. The ministry is currently studying their applications, a process

that will end by Saturday, he added.

Each governorate, said the minister, will receive an equitable share of these scholarships.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education is planning the second stage of its school building construction programme which aims to decrease the number of rented buildings the ministry occupies.

Director of the ministry's Project Department said that by the year 2000 the ministry would have reduced its dependence on rented buildings to around four per cent.

Mr. Kasbi, an engineer, said that by the end of 1994, the first stage of the building programme will be completed. The first stage will have reduced to 153 out of 494 the total number of rented buildings needed to accommodate students, according to Mr. Kasbi.

During the 1993-94 scho-

lastic year, he said, the ministry owned 2,437 school buildings with a total student seating capacity of 881,123.

Nearly 14.3 per cent of the total number of students in Jordan still go to school in rented buildings, he added.

According to recommendations passed by the 1989 educational Conference, the ministry should arrange for its own school buildings, do away with the two-shift schools, and speed up the construction of school buildings to meet to the growing number of students each year.

The first stage of the plan, said Mr. Kasbi, entailed building and furnishing 182 schools at the primary level.

He said, during the first stage also, the ministry installed 147 libraries, 143 laboratories and 161 lecture halls, and set up 152 vocational training workshops at its schools in various governorates.



Nabil Mashini and Ziad Jaghbir act out a scene from "Pierced skin-bag"

## Reading life through the Souq of 'Pierced Skin-bag'

By Angham Tamimi

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Poverty and unemployment in Jordan were two major topics in Nabil Mashini's comedy "Pierced Skin-bag" performed at the Fuheis festival Sunday night.

The Jordanian "souq" was the only set through which playwright Azmi Mustafa, and director Ghassan Mashini portrayed people's lives in Jordan.

"All issues have a direct relation with people's social, political, and cultural lives," Nabil Mashini told the Jordan Times.

To create a humorous atmosphere, roles were given to a number of characters whose actual body-sizes form a funny collection on stage.

"I tried to create suspense," said Mr. Mashini. Such differentiation was consciously chosen to serve another purpose, that is, the "souq", a place where all educated and uneducated people frequent.

The set represented the society as a whole with all its defects, its false relations, the lies upon which lives are

built, the destruction of values, ethics, behaviour, and other concepts, said Mr. Mashini.

"Our problem is not the problem of those who starve and those who do not, rather we try to raise far more serious questions, like health insurance, joblessness, the right man in the right place, and so on," said Mr. Mashini.

From beginning to end, the play was loaded with ironical hints. The characters' dialogues referred to various ideas such as, an Arab country that had refused to surrender in spite of the embargo imposed on it since four years, take your right by your own right hand and hit your enemy with your left hand, a foreign country that has recently become a member at the Arab League, we Arabs are always winners but with motives, the sell-buy concept of Arab unity, the deterioration of the civil officials' incomes compared to the market, poor services in hospitals, and more.

The play has been performed 50 times before, said

Mr. Mashini, and "I have received several protests from people in government and others who did not agree with me on such issues. But we artists have a goal in life. Theatrical works cannot be guided by government rules. My job is to feel the people's sufferings and to present any problem even if 10 persons in the society suffer because we live in a democratic atmosphere. We feel free to reveal ourselves. I believe that a theatre without democracy has to be deleted."

The two act play ends with the educated and uneducated characters realising that all efforts to save their society and to remedy its defects were in vain. They have been blowing inside a pierced skin-bag.

"All Nabil Mashini's ideas were taken from day-to-day life. After specifying the headlines, I give them to a scenarist to translate into theatrical works. Usually my simple idea develops and bears many issues I might not think of before."

Most of Mr. Mashini's theatrical works are com-

edies. But he believes that his style could be described as "serious comedy," because it deals with serious problems and sometimes arrives at indirect solutions.

The play at Fuheis Festival raised a challenging discussion of the serious political touches here and there, but Mr. Mashini believes that artists are not parrots that repeat what they have heard or have been taught.

"I like to taste the delicious democracy that 90 per cent of the Third World is deprived of," Mr. Mashini said.

Talking about the theatre in Jordan, he turned to another problem which he sees as the problem of all Jordanian artists. For Mr. Mashini, all sectors in the society have their own representative bodies except for the artists. The government, said Mr. Mashini, never genuinely supported the artist.

For this reason, he said, those artists who have been adventurous enough to produce theatrical works usually bear any loss expected. Otherwise, said Mr. Mashini, the art would die in Jordan.



ON THE ROAD: Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Razzak Ensour Wednesday tours road projects which the ministry is currently implementing in the Ramtha district in northern Jordan (Petra photo)

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

- Exhibition of caricature drawings by cartoonist Hussein Al Farra at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).
- Exhibition of oil paintings by Princess Wijdan Ali at the Balqa Art Gallery in Fuheis (10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.) (Tel. 726677).
- Exhibition of water paintings by Sudanese artist Abdul Qadir Al Bakhit at Baladina Art Gallery, Gardens Street (Tel. 687598).
- Exhibition entitled "Environmental Technologies: A Travelling Information Centre" at the American Center.
- Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Orfali Art Gallery in Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932).
- The Child's World Festival 1994\* (containing all children needs) at the World Exhibition Center, University Road (Tel. 643844).
- Exhibition of painting by several Jordanian artists entitled "The Fact Between Paintings and Viewers As Viewed By Artist" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of new paintings by Diana Shammouk at The Gallery, Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel (8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.).
- Exhibition of paintings by Omar Hamdan Shahman at Darat Al Funn of the Abdul

## Iran-Argentina tension mounts

(Continued from page 12)

may be implicated in the bombing, according to a Paraguayan judge. Judge Carlos Monges, in an exclusive interview with Argentine television station, said the six people were suspected of having played a role in the bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires two years ago.

Mr. Monges said the affair was very delicate. Israel has launched a campaign to urge industrialised

countries to reduce their economic links with Iran, officials said.

The campaign is being spearheaded by the foreign ministry which has put together a team headed by senior official Yoav Biran to persuade other nations to stop the sales of sophisticated materials and technology to Iran.

Israel hopes to convince the European union and Japan in particular that Iran



## Sri Lanka opposition heads for narrow win in elections

COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lanka's United National Party (UNP) appeared headed for defeat Wednesday after 17 years in power, with only a few general election results still to be announced.

Of the 196 directly elected seats in parliament, the opposition People's Alliance (PA) had so far won 90 and their allies the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC) three, the Elections Commissioner's department said.

The UNP had 78, the Tamil United Liberation Front three, and Sri Lanka Progressive Front, a fringe left-wing party, one seat and an independent group, one.

Another 29 "bonus seats" in parliament are allocated to parties in proportion to their total number of votes.

Analysts said both sides were wooing small minority Tamil parties to strengthen their positions after Tuesday's poll, but the PA and its SLMC ally were only six short of a majority of directly-elected seats.

President Dingiri Banda Wijetunga said in a televised address to the nation he would announce the new gov-

ernment once the relative strengths of the parties were known.

"I appeal to all my countrymen to remain calm," he said. "You may rest assured that I will be acting in terms of the constitution."

Results from northern Sri Lanka are yet to be announced. Most Tamils there live in areas controlled by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebels and are unable to vote.

Despite widespread fears of violence the poll was largely peaceful with a turnout of 75 per cent.

The Tiger rebels, fighting since 1983 for independence in the island's north and east, did not carry out threats to disrupt the poll.

The government declared a state of emergency and a 33-hour curfew Tuesday night to avert post-election violence.

"The election has been very peaceful. There have been no major incidents of violence," said Camillus Fernando, a spokesman for an international observer group.

Police said they arrested 21 opposition supporters who broke the curfew and par-

aded through the streets in Anuradhapura district in the north-central area Wednesday.

Two PA supporters were stabbed to death in the eastern Ampara district during curfew hours Tuesday.

Campaigning for the elections was plagued by violence nationwide with 20 deaths, mostly of PA supporters, and scores of complaints of assault, harassment, burning of shops, houses and offices.

The UNP pledged in its campaign to continue the liberal economic policies that have enhanced Sri Lanka's growth and sparked rising foreign investment.

But the PA, led by Sri Lanka Freedom Party that ruled the island from 1970 to 1977, urged an end to what it termed widespread government bribery and corruption.

The PA also asked for a mandate to end the bloody civil war between majority Sinhalese and minority Tamils.

More than 10.9 million of the 17 million people were eligible to vote to elect representatives to parliament.

"We are talking to the minority parties in an effort

to form a new government," a Peoples' Alliance official said on condition of anonymity, as the group's leaders met behind closed doors.

However, the governing United National Party refused to say it had lost the election until the final vote was counted.

Mr. Wijetunga can appoint anyone he wants as prime minister and ask them to try to form a coalition government.

In a national television address, he refused to say who he would choose as prime minister until the final vote is announced on Wednesday night or Thursday morning.

If the alliance takes control of parliament, it has promised to restructure the government by stripping the presidency of its many powers so that the prime minister and parliament will have more control.

Mr. Wijetunga took power in 1993, when his party's authoritarian president, Ranasinghe Premadasa, was assassinated, and the UNP doesn't want presidential powers weakened or rebel negotia-



Soldiers check curfew passes of a motorist at Colombo's main Galle Road, Sri Lanka, brought under a state of emergency to prevent post-election violence, after Tuesday's parliamentary elections (AFP photo)

## Protesters hurt in Lesotho shooting after king dissolves government

MASERU (R) — Soldiers and police opened fire on protesters, wounding several, outside the king's palace in the Lesotho capital Maseru Wednesday, witnesses said.

"There has been some shooting. A number of people have been wounded," said a witness to the shooting outside the palace where hundreds were protesting over King Letsie III's dissolution of the African mountain kingdom's government and parliament earlier in the day.

Another witness said eight people had been wounded.

"The shooting started after an army vehicle went into the crowd and the protesters threw stones at the vehicle. Those inside the army truck then started shooting..."

Police and soldiers guarding the palace joined in and fired at the people," he said.

"People have dispersed. Those who were wounded were being carried into police vans to be taken to hospital," a local shopkeeper said.

The protesters proceeded peacefully to the residence of the prime minister, who was reported to be in a meeting with his cabinet colleagues. Party officials said he sought a meeting with the king.

The king said in his broadcast: "I am dissolving the parliament and government of Lesotho with immediate effect because of dissatisfac-

tion" among his subjects. Speaking in the local Sesotho language and English, the king said a provincial council representing all the people was being established and would take over from Mr. Mokhehele's government.

Lesotho, which is about the size of Belgium and ringed by South Africa, has been rocked this year by a police strike and a mutiny by soldiers in which the deputy prime minister was killed.

King Letsie replaced his father, King Moshoeshoe, who was deposed and went into exile in Britain in 1990 after differences with the then military government over how to run the country.

The BCP was voted into power in March 1993 in Lesotho's first multi-party elections in 20 years, but has faced growing popular dissent, particularly over how King Moshoeshoe was ousted.

On Monday five opposition parties presented a petition to King Letsie asking him to stand down.

King Letsie is reported to be in favour of allowing his father to resume office as a constitutional monarch, leaving real power to a newly-elected government.

## 4 people killed in Khmer Rouge attack

CHHUM KIRI, Cambodia (AFP) — Four people were killed and three injured early Wednesday when Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked this town in the southern province of Kampot, witnesses said.

About 100 guerrillas equipped with light arms and grenades attacked the village, killing four people; the district chief, his bodyguard, a policeman and another man related to the chief, a witness, Peak Kdy, said.

At least seven huts were burned down in the attack, including a policeman's house, as the rebels looted buildings and made off with motorcycles laden with goods, witnesses said.

"Bullets were falling like rain," said one panic-stricken woman.

Another woman sat crying outside the smoking ruins of her burned-out house. "My house was attacked with grenades," she said.

"The Khmer Rouge attacked my house because it was next to a policeman's house."

Peak Kdy said the guerrillas deliberately targeted local authorities because of the village chief's harsh treatment of people known to have Khmer Rouge ties.

Local police said the attackers had also been searching for foreigners to capture for ransom.

"The Khmer Rouge asked if foreigners were here, any NGO workers," a police lieutenant said, referring to employees of non-governmental organizations.

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## Charges of biased news coverage as Mexico election race draws to close



Ernesto Zedillo (right), presidential candidate for Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) waves to thousands of supporters during a campaign rally in Ecatepec.

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's presidential campaign began drawing to a close Tuesday as opposition candidate Cuauhtemoc Cardenas complained he had been shut out from last-minute airtime on television.

Mr. Cardenas, candidate of the leftist Democratic Revolutionary Party, lost a bruising 1988 election and warned through a spokesman that he will be vigilant for any possible fraud in Sunday's balloting.

His spokesman, Adolfo Aguilar Zinser, said it appeared pro-government television had "closed off" last blocks of newscasts to the Cardenas campaign. He did not specify whether he was referring to the giant network Televisa.

"This is an ominous preamble to the vote," said Aguilar Zinser, who said the Mexican media have shown undue sympathies for the front-running candidate, Ernesto Zedillo, of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI.

Aguilar Zinser said hundreds of Mr. Cardenas poll watchers will blanket at least seven in every 10 of the more than 94,000 voting sites in Mexico Sunday to deter any fraud. About 45.7 million Mexicans are eligible to vote.

The government has brushed aside suggestions it may try to manipulate the vote, and Televisa and leading newspapers have allocated greater space to opposition candidates in this election.

"The elections will be democratic, impartial and transparent," President Carlos Salinas de Gortari pledged Monday while greeting members of Mexico's World Cup soccer team at his residence here.

A repeat candidate, Mr. Cardenas told thousands of supporters in Sinaloa state this week that he would be willing to "head civil resistance" should vote-counting computers fail like they did in his bruising 1988 loss.

Mr. Zedillo leads the polls by 20 percentage points or more over Diego Fernandez de Cevallos of the conservative National Action Party. Mr. Cardenas trails in third after a lackluster race, strapped for advertising funds.

## Stoltenberg silent on prospects for top NATO post

UNITED NATIONS (R) — "Is that on the agenda?" retorted former Norwegian Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg when asked Tuesday about his chances of being chosen secretary-general of NATO.

The question was slipped in at a meeting with reporters meant to focus on a recent trip he made as co-chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia.

"I've been in Serbia and Bosnia and I've seen it in some Serbian papers. But I must tell you, I am not prepared to talk about the future," he said.

Mr. Stoltenberg and former Italian Prime Minister Giuliano Amato have been mentioned in speculation about a possible successor to Manfred Woerner, the former West German defence minister.

Mr. Stoltenberg expressed great regret at Mr. Woerner's death while noting that, as Norway's foreign minister, he had "worked fairly actively against him being secretary-general" and had supported the candidacy of former Norwegian Prime Minister Kaare Willoch.

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## U.N. wants women to choose family size

LONDON (AP) — In a report bound to spark opposition from the Roman Catholic Church, a U.N. population control group said birth control should be more available, and women should be allowed to choose the size of their families.

The report, by the United Nations Population Fund, said improving women's status through education and health care is the key to slowing the population boom.

The annual report comes less than three weeks before the Sept. 5 opening of a U.N. conference, expected to draft a 20-year plan for controlling world population, which has already drawn Vatican fire.

Pope John Paul II has launched one of the biggest battles of his 16-year reign against the conference, saying it will spur abortion and birth control and threaten the traditional family.

Many Muslims also have criticised the conference as a challenge to their beliefs, maintaining it will foster abortion and sex outside marriage. The conference's draft report was condemned by Cairo's Al Azhar University, the major centre of Muslim thought, and by various radical Islamic spokesmen.

Like the conference proposal, the report released to U.N. agencies "encourages abortions"

kill 60,000 women a year.

"Appropriate contraception is in all cases preferable to the risks associated with unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortion," it says, without endorsing abortion.

Entitled the State of World Population 1994, the report supports access to family planning information, access to reproductive health care for women, and the right of all women to choose if and when to get married and to get pregnant.

About 120 million women want to plan their families but can't get modern contraceptives, it said.

"At a minimum, women have the right to know that they do not have to risk their lives for a pregnancy, wanted or unwanted," the report says.

World population hit 5.66 billion this year and is projected to grow to 6 billion in 1998, 8.5 billion by 2025, and 10 billion by 2050, assuming continued declining fertility, according to the report.

Although fertility rates have fallen, the number of people is increasing by 94 million a year, the highest increase in history. Nearly all the growth is in Asia, Africa and Latin America, mainly in the poorest countries.

Citing three countries which have successfully confronted population growth —

Zimbabwe, Thailand and Colombia — the report calls for national programmes which invest in women's education and health and make greater efforts to improve their status.

"Study after study in country after country has found that on average, the more educated women are, the more likely they are to use contraception and limit fertility," said Tim Dyson, professor of population studies at the London School of Economics.

But Professor Julian Simon of the University of Maryland, who has written extensively about population, accused the population fund of talking about freedom but wanting governments "to persuade and coerce people to have different numbers of children than the couples want."

"Personal and economic liberty are the most powerful forces working for economic development, including the freedom to choose the number of children you want," he said.

More than 25 per cent of international population assistance to developing countries is channelled through the United Nations Population Fund, which carries out programmes in more than 130 countries and territories.

## Jackson sued again

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Pop Star Michael Jackson is being sued by the stepfather of the 13-year-old boy who last year accused the singer of sexually molesting him. The man claimed Jackson broke up his family by plying the teenager and his mother with thousands of dollars worth of presents. In the lawsuit, filed Tuesday, the man claims Jackson took the boy and his mother on no-limit shopping sprees in Florida and Las Vegas. Danny Davis, the stepfather's lawyer, described Jackson's action as being a "classic pedophilic strategy." After the boy's allegation of sexual abuse against Jackson surfaced in August 1993, Davis said the stepfather separated from his wife and her son after eight years of marriage. Jackson's lawyer Howard Weitzman dismissed the latest suit against his multi-millionaire client. "This lawsuit is an attempt to take advantage of his fame and notoriety in order to get money," said Mr. Weitzman. Jackson is believed to have paid the 13-year-old boy \$15 million earlier this year to settle a civil action brought by the teenager. The stepfather received nothing from the settlement. Meanwhile police in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara continue to investigate the sexual molestation allegations against Jackson but no charges have been filed against him despite the year-long investigation.

## 8 countries reach debating quarterfinals

WELLINGTON (AFP) — The world's best teenage talkers will be under real pressure here as the World Schools Debating Championships goes into the quarterfinals. After the preliminary rounds, eight of the 13 countries made it into the quarterfinals. They are Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, the United States and Wales. Organiser Rosemary Dixon said Wednesday would be the toughest phase of the competition so far. "The pressure is really on to perform as a loss now puts the losing team out of the championships." Contestants will be given a topic only 90 minutes before the debate begins in each of the quarterfinals. The Grand Final will be held in the banquet hall of the Beehive at parliament Thursday. England is the current champion.

## S. Korea bans Penthouse

SEOUL (R) — The South Korean government said Wednesday it had banned a Korean version of a steamy Penthouse magazine publication because censors deemed it indecent. "The magazine has been found unsuitable for South Koreans. We are still a conservative nation," an official at the Culture Ministry said. The 116-page Korean version of Penthouse's The Girls Of Penthouse reached South Korea's newsstands last month but was seized by police less than a week later. Penthouse, with its photos of nude women, is traditionally aimed at a mostly male market. The magazine says it is published in collaboration with Penthouse international using the Penthouse logo and trademark by permission. Oh Kyu-Chung, president of Teletelco Inc., which published the magazine, barked her, reacted angrily and called the government decision narrow-minded. "Is this what the government means when it calls for globalisation?" he said. All books and magazines published in South Korea have to be submitted to a government censorship body within 15 days of publication.

## NO TVs for Malaysian gays

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — Malaysia has banned homosexuals and transvestites from appearing on the country's state-run television network. Radio Television Malaysia (RTM), a top official said Wednesday. "Any artist who is proven to be a gay will come under the ban. We do not want to encourage any form of homosexuality in our society." Information Minister Mohamad Rahmat, was Wednesday quoted as saying by local newspapers. Officials said Wednesday that the move followed complaints by viewers of RTM shows which had inadvertently featured transvestites.







## Jordan Times

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## Argument for the law

AS MEMBERS of the Abequa family gathered in front of the Prime Ministry to demand that the law be the final arbiter in the custody case for the children of their son who confessed to killing his wife in the United States, Lisa and Sami were boarding a plane on their way to the United States.

Whether Lisa and Sami will have a better life in the custody of their mother's or father's family is not the most important issue at this point. What should be of the utmost import is the application of the law to resolve this most difficult case.

The two children were in Jordan and the family of their father as well as that of their mother have applied for custody. There are Jordanian laws governing such a conflict. The law should have been applied and a court of law should have been the final arbiter in the case. Given our belief in the fairness and independence of the country's judicial system, the court ruling would have been accepted by all, except probably the U.S. which might believe more in the soundness of its own laws.

The Abequa children were flown out of Jordan without a court decision. This is, regardless of all good intentions involved, a blow not only to the family who have put its faith in the judiciary but also to the whole democratic process in Jordan. Democracy is about the application and respect of law. In this case, it is clear that the law took a back seat to politics or to extrajudicial deals.

It was American politicians who politicised what should have been a purely legal matter. Yet again, those politicians provided an evidence of their hypocrisy in dealing with democracy and the rule of the law in other countries. Granted the greatest fault lay with the absence of an extradition treaty between Jordan and the U.S., but that should not mean that American officials and parliamentarians should insist on their own laws superseding other countries' statutes and legal procedures.

Maybe the political pressure was a bit too much for Jordan to resist. However, the Kingdom could have made an impeccable argument for resolving the case in a court of law. Furthermore, this country could have voiced its argument publicly inside the United States itself. The government could have told the Americans Jordan is a democracy and in a democracy it is illegal to break the law.

The U.S. would have had a hard time defeating this argument in public. It would have betrayed the pillars of its own system had it done so.

We do not know how the majority of Jordanians feel about what happened yesterday. We do know, however, that some Jordanians stand to suffer from the decision to send the children back to the United States. Among those will be the Abequa family, which was not given a fair chance to prove that Lisa and Sami could have been better off with them. Maybe the Abequas should fight for custody in American courts with the support of those who can assist financially. The one thing they could be sure of there is that U.S. officials will have a hard time trying to break American laws.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Wednesday voiced his rejection of the reported proposal calling for a Saudi-Palestinian-Jordanian supervision of the holy places in Jerusalem. Tareq Masarweh said that Jordan has a special and unique role in caring for the holy places and has been exercising this role through the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs before and during the Israeli occupation of Palestine. Admitting that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or the Palestine National Authority (PNA) should have geo-political sovereignty over the holy city, the writer said that the holy sites in particular could be placed under a special Islamic committee that would take charge of maintenance, restoration and other safeguards in conjunction with the Jordanian Ministry of Awqaf and the Palestine National Authority. Referring to the Washington Declaration, the writer said that it provided for a special Jordanian role which would be taken into account when the Israelis and the Palestinians start discussing the future of the holy city. He said that Jordan does not claim sovereignty over the city of Jerusalem but is seeking to reaffirm its historic and traditional role of caring for the holy shrines in collaboration with the Islamic World. He said the Oslo agreement does not provide for the involvement of Saudi Arabia in supervising the holy places and the Washington Declaration stipulate a Jordanian religious sovereignty.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour drew attention to the need, to offer facilities for investment in new development projects in Jordan. Mohammad Daoud said that the country has been witnessing increasing indicators of increased desires for investments, something which increases optimism and confidence in the national economy. It is incumbent on the government, said the writer, to offer investors further incentives and more facilities, especially those interested in industry, tourism and services sectors.

## The View From Academia

# Writing as an expression of self: Problems, solutions

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

WRITING IS perhaps the most difficult subject to teach, in our part of the world, both at the school and university levels. Not only are there so many factors and variables to deal with (noticeably more so than in most other subjects) but also writing seems to be more directly tied than other subjects to the state of the culture at large. Regrettably, our present-day educational and cultural climate is not congenial to good writing.

We must at the outset distinguish between creative and expository writing. The former refers essentially to "literary" texts, such as poems, short stories, novels, plays, etc. The latter refers to non-literary texts, those written with a more immediate or specific purpose in mind — such as essays, scholarly articles, reports, letters, etc. In creative writing, one enjoys a great deal of freedom in both the choice of the theme itself and the style of writing. Aside from some tacit norms and conventions related to the use of language and to the handling of genre, there are virtually no rules as to how one ought to write. In fact, in most cases (such as in modern literature) the excellence of literary works stems from their conscious violation of norms and conventions — Emily Dickinson, T.S. Eliot, James Joyce, and E.E. Cummings are good examples. In expository writing, by contrast, there are explicit rules with respect both to theme and style, rules which must be adhered to by all, all the time. As I tell my students, George Bush and Bill Clinton have probably changed the shape of Middle Eastern politics for a long time to come, but that would never change the use of a semicolon or a comma.

My main concern here is with expository writing. The state of contemporary Arab written discourse is indeed far from satisfactory. The majority of texts written in Arabic by Arabs today, in nearly any field, abound with errors of all sorts — some understandable but most outrageous. There are mistakes not only in punctuation (which many seem to treat as decorative rather than functional), in diction, in grammar, in structure but also in clarity, coherence, cohesion, logic. You name it. I have seen many instances where a full stop is placed in the middle of the sentence, not at the end of it; where there is no topic sentence whatsoever in the paragraph or where there are too many; where the writer jumps from one point to the other without us knowing how; where texts are unbearably repetitious; where words are too abstract and hollow; where whole paragraphs and sections are absolutely pointless or nonsensical. The sad thing here is that such "crimes against language" (to use a phrase by Mark Twain) occur not just in material produced by students at school or university but by professionals whose material is published, some of whom are celebrities. Look at the editorials and feature stories in the Arabic dailies, the Radio and TV news

bulletins, school textbooks, articles or books written by intellectuals in the various spheres, etc. I have read books (many books) whose 200-page argument could be succinctly summarised in 10 pages, is too pedestrian or obvious to be published, or is so circumlocutory it is an insult to the reader. Should not there be a difference between the way my semi-literate grandmother writes and the way experts write?

Generally, there are many causes for poor writing. Some are linguistic (i.e. the person's command of the language, which is an essential tool), some technical (the know-how of writing as a process or a craft), some have to do with practice and experience (the more one writes the better one becomes at it), some with the teaching environment itself (the approach or method of instruction, the text used, the teacher), etc.

In our society, however, the most crucial causes are the following three, in my opinion.

1. Very little writing is done at the school level. A quick look at most school syllabi in the Arab World, especially at public schools which cater for the majority of students, reveals that writing is immensely marginalised. Not only is there an obvious lack of emphasis on written reports and research but the "composition" lessons, along with "art" and "physical training," are not taken seriously. The writing that is done in exams, which has lessened remarkably with the spread of the so-called objective tests, is graded on the basis of information only. The language, the style and the method of organisation are not taken into consideration. If students are not given the chance to write extensively at an early stage, when their readiness to learn and master skills is presumably at its best, how can they become effective writers?

2. The conception of writing itself at our schools seems to be faulty. We teach our students what we call in Arabic "Insha." In theory, the term, which translates into "construction" or "composition," is quite apt. Writing is indeed a process of constructing and composing; it is much like building a house, where one makes up a design first (which corresponds in writing to the outline) and then proceeds to translate its various components into neat realities step-by-step. In practice, however, "Insha" is quite simply a disaster. "Yumshi" has come to mean "create freely." The process is very similar to creative writing in its loosest sense. Even though students are told that there ought to be logic and organisation, they are not held accountable for them; nor are they shown how to write logically or organise, in the first place. Most teachers encourage students to write flowery words and rhythmic phrases, highly metaphorical expressions, and sweeping generalisation — i.e. everything

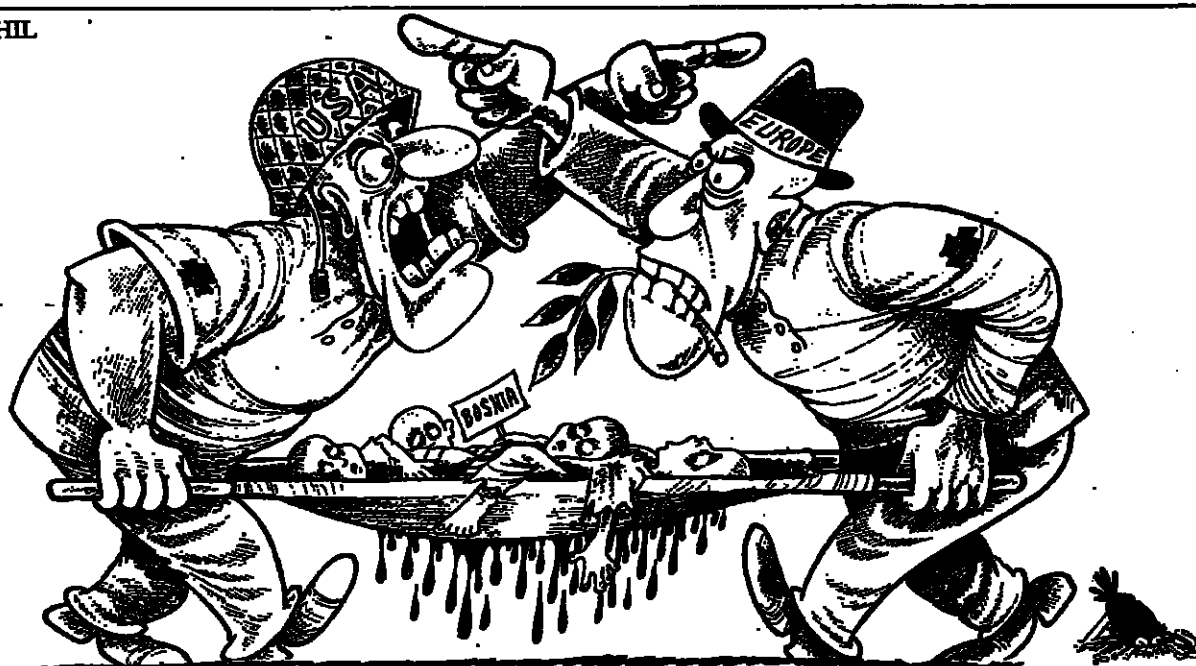
which ought to be discouraged in expository writing. The models students try to emulate when they write their home assignments, and when they grow up to be full-fledged authors, are the likes of Dickinson, Eliot, Joyce, and Cummings. What they produce is poetic prose. Thus an essay about "agriculture in Jordan" is written in the style of, and may read like, a love letter: no facts, no evidence, no logic, no analysis.

3. Those who write in our part of the world lack the level of commitment required for good writing. Writing is highly controlled, highly orderly, highly disciplined, highly meticulous, highly responsible, highly demanding, and even highly unerving. It is a very long and a very difficult and painful process. One has to think, read about the subject, think some more, attempt an outline, draft an outline, revise the outline, translate the outline into a draft, rewrite the draft, then revise, etc. Individuals in our culture (today) are, frankly, too impatient, too carefree, too quick, too undisciplined, too disorderly to live up to the challenge of writing. Most want to sit down for half an hour or an hour and write a masterpiece. Ask our students: they know that there ought to be an outline, a draft, revision, a topic sentence, development, organisation, etc. They know. Ask them to write, they do not pay attention to what they know. The state of writing in our society is like the traffic situation in our towns and cities. Who does not know that at a stop-sign one is supposed to stop? But who stops? They know the use of the semicolon but they ignore it when they write. The problem is cultural and sociological in my opinion. They are too impatient, too lazy, and too noncommittal — three bad traits which are inherited from the culture at large.

To write well, we have to teach writing well. First, we need to rethink the concept of "Insha" and replace it with "Writing." While the first is highly impressionistic and free, the latter is scientific and controlled. We can benefit from the experience of other nations with writing, because writing (regardless of the peculiar cultural traits affecting written discourse in any given society) is a universal discipline. Secondly, we must give our students the opportunity to write fairly frequently and consistently until the writing process becomes almost second nature to them or until it becomes spontaneous, like the water they drink and the air they breathe. Thirdly, we ought to focus on the mental and social impediments which stand in the way of commitment to writing and seek help from experts in solving them — a task which is not at all easy.

Writing is important, more important than many in our society think. It is an expression of self, an expression of identity. It is time to take it more seriously and to reconsider where we (individuals and institutions alike) stand in relation to it.

M. KAHIL



## Algeria's civil war smoulders on

By Francis Ghiles

THE INCREASING violence which has racked Algeria in recent weeks has quite overshadowed the agreement North Africa's largest nation reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last May. The violence, which is claiming both Algerian and foreign lives and which is now striking at the very heart of Algiers, has convinced many Western observers that even if the current round of negotiations on foreign debt, whose aim is to loosen the financial noose which has forced Algeria to pay more than 88 per cent of its foreign income to service its debt to Western creditors, is successful, the country's leader will not be in a position to kick-start an economy which has been in decline since 1986.

The number of victims claimed by the violence of the past two years is now estimated to have passed 5,000. Many of these are ordinary men and women. They belong to that mass of Algerians who are not supporters of radical Islam but shun supporting a government whose legitimacy they reject. Prominent intellectuals and scientists continue to be targeted by the fundamentalists, such as the head of the veterinary school, Mohammed, Bekkouche, who was killed on July 11, but foreigners have recently paid a heavy toll. Seven Italian sailors were murdered as they slept in their cargo ship off the port of Djendjen on July 7 and five technicians working with the state oil and gas monopoly, Sonatrach, were taken off a company bus a week later and shot in front of their Algerian peers in cold blood.

Another development causing concern in Algiers relates to the growing divergence which has appeared between the French and U.S. positions over how to respond to the deepening crisis. The U.S. has for some time made clear its preference for dialogue between the military and all the political forces in Algeria, not least the fundamentalists. Policy-makers in Washington have attempted to draw conclusions from their country's long estrangement with Iran and the violent anti-Western feelings displayed by Arab public opinion at

ter Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

The conclusions are four-fold. Washington does not wish to replace one "ism" with another, e.g. Communism with Islam, and strongly objects to being labelled the "Great Satan". Second, while it is concerned at the activities of Sudan and Iran, it does not believe there is a "monolithic international control" being exercised over the various Islamic groups in the region. Third, it is suspicious of those who would use the democratic process to come to power only to retain political dominance. Finally, while it does not wish to impose a Western model of democracy on the Middle East, it does believe that broad political participation contributes to long-term stability.

The Italians and, even more, the Spaniards, share such views but are reticent of expressing them in too public and forthright a manner. Germany will not wish to contradict France whose support it needs in matters East European. French politicians do not disagree with the U.S. position in private but do not appreciate such views being expressed publicly. They fear that the possible advent of an Islamic state in the run-up to next year's elections will lead support to right-wing leaders such as Le Pen. Many interests tie Algeria's *nomenklatura* to French interests, which could be upset by a change of regime. The government of Prime Minister Balladur has canvassed its Western allies to support the IMF package of reforms and the rescheduling of Algeria's debt. Most countries have, some rather more reluctantly than others. But all agree in private that in the absence of a broader political consensus, they may be throwing good money after bad.

Algeria is not part of U.S. strategic concerns in the Middle East. These are, by name, Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Its policy makers are not unaware of the "spill-over" risks that the advent of a fundamentalist regime in Algiers might carry. But they despair of Algerian leaders' capacity to rebuild a political consensus. Earlier this month, the veteran leader, Hocine Ait Ahmed, who is secretary-general of the secular Front des Forces Socialistes, criticised France for not putting its weight in the balance to encourage the Algerian government to dialogue. Dialogue, not just between the two sides which have been confronting each other since the elections were suspended two and a half years ago, but dialogue with all the parties, including the Front de Liberation National. What Mr. Ait Ahmed says from Europe, the former reformist prime minister, Mouloud Hamrouche, says in Algiers.

The question today is who is talking to who? The fundamentalists are fragmented, groups will kill rather than talk. The same appears to be true on the other side. A veil of mystery surrounds the army leadership which is nearly as thick as that which surrounds the fundamentalist groups. The absence of leaders of stature on either side simply encourages the spoilers. Meanwhile the mass of Algerians refuse to join in, an attitude which both sides deplore but which, to date, has prevented a low-combustion civil war from turning into all-out conflict.

Middle East International

## Mandela's tests are yet to come

By Brendan Boyle  
Reuters

CAPE TOWN — South African President Nelson Mandela has won the hearts of a divided nation during his first 100 days in office.

But colleagues and political analysts say the real tests, including the judgment of voters who have pinned their hopes on him, are still to come.

"I don't think he could have done better," said arch-rival Mangosuthu Buthe, leader of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party and Home Affairs Minister in Mandela's constitutionally-enforced coalition cabinet.

"He has performed very well as a father figure and as a head of government... I think he has a firm hand on government policy," said Mr. Buthe, one of Mr. Mandela's fiercest critics before the country's first all-race elections last April.

Mr. Mandela, who spent over a third of his life in jail for plotting against white rule, marks his 100th day in office on Thursday with a state-of-the-nation address.

He is expected to spell out details of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) crafted by his African National Congress (ANC) to eliminate the backlog of 340 years of white rule.

Mr. Mandela promised in his first address to the new black-led parliament on May 24 to extend the frontiers of freedom.

"My government's commitment to create a people-centred society of liberty binds us to the pursuit of the goals of freedom from want, freedom from deprivation, freedom from ignorance, freedom from suppression and freedom from fear," he said.

After 100 days, however, the only tangible evidence of his promise of a better life is a new deal giving free medical care to pregnant women and to children under six if they are in reach of a hospital.

A school-feeding scheme for the country's poorest children will go into effect on Sept. 1.

For the rest, Mr. Mandela's government has named hundreds of task forces and working groups to research the implementation of the RDP and ways to create jobs out of renewal.

Alec Erwin, an ANC stalwart serving as deputy to old-guard Finance

Minister Derek Keys, acknowledged that the expectations of the 12 million people who put Mr. Mandela in power could become a crisis.

"If not enough is done in this early period of governance in the next six or seven months, then the gap between aspirations and delivery will become a serious one," he said.

Admitting that his main surprise had been to learn that government was harder than he expected, Mr. Erwin added:

"The next 100 days is going to be tougher than the last 100 days. But I think in the next 100 days some of the fruit of the preparatory work that has been carried out will start reaching the ground."

"If we spend a little bit longer in these early stages, I think we will be able to go faster. Time spent now will be saved later," he said.

That logic appeals to the business community, but it is harder to sell in black townships where unemployment is estimated at over 40 per cent and 1.5 million families live in shanties of cardboard and plastic.

"The evidence of the first 100 days, in terms of economic policy, would appear to be quite positive," said Dave Mohr, chief economist for the old Mutual Investment House.

The South African Chamber of Business confidence index hit a 6½ year high at the end of July despite the shock resignation of keys for personal reasons.

Though foreign investment has not started to flow, all the many trade delegations assessing opportunities in South Africa speak highly of the country and its new leader.

In the townships that is not enough. "It looks like our president is only in charge politically and not economically," said Amos Makhubu, a shanty dweller in Kaitshong, outside Johannesburg.

"I supported the ANC because they said things will be better when they are in power. But three months have passed and it does not look like we will get any of the things we were promised."

Former President F.W. de Klerk, now one of two deputy presidents, said in an interview he was pleased by the cooperative spirit in the coalition cabinet in which his National Party shares power with the ANC and Inkatha.







## The all-in-one swindle

By Jean-Claude Elias

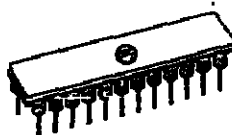
Our suppliers of information technology want us to believe that the personal computer (PC) has become a consumer product. Though partly true, the complexity of the software and the enormous variety of problems a PC user may encounter while working, belie this statement. Nevertheless, the PC is nowadays marketed as such, i.e. as a consumer product.

One of the many ruses manufacturers resort to in order to promote their goods is the "all-in-one" trick. From pens that have a built-in watch, a ruler and an electronic game to radio sets with an integrated flashlight, a calculator and a coffee percolator, all are made to tempt the buyer into the magic of the multi-purpose. Not only does the customer forget that he is actually paying for all the devices as if bought separately, but he also has to settle for poor quality components.

If the above is more or less acceptable for pens or radios, it should not be even considered when looking for a PC or a PC-related product. An American company has recently launched a portable fax machine that also serves as a photocopier, a document scanner and fax-Modem. Four machines in one.

To be true, technically speaking, it must be said that the above four units do have something in common — they all use a scanning system. However, for quality work, they must all have different specifications. Resolution more particularly must be as high as

## chip talk



possible for a good scanner, while medium resolution would do for a fax system. Somewhere on the road to perfection, obviously, there is a flagrant compromise.

Audiophiles reject anything less than a discrete hi-fi system where each piece is separated: The amplifier, the cassette deck, the CD player, the radio tuner, the speakers, etc. For the ultimate in music purity, the most demanding even look for separated power amplifiers and control pre-amplifiers.

If quality is the main reason for having independent units, practicality and maintenance are important as well. The ergonomics of a fax machine and a PC scanner are not the same. How do you combine them and keep them pleasant, easy to manipulate? Repairing modular units is easier and less expensive than integrated ones. Transporting them too.

Manufacturers can be excused for designing and marketing all-in-one small, amusing gadgets, not computer related units.

## In Shakespeare's garden

By E. Yaghi

How are the Iraqi people recovering three and a half years after the Gulf War? Engineers diligently rebuild the country night and day repairing bombed out bridges, warehouses, ministerial compounds and roads. At first glance, in the area where Western civilisation first began, between the Tigris and Euphrates, an aura of normalcy, as far as structures go, prevails. Yet, this is only superficial, for with the continuance of the sanctions, life becomes increasingly more difficult for the majority of civilians who experienced the worst bombing since World War II.

There is a small plot of land where Shakespeare's flowers bloom and grow, overshadowed by poverty, despair, hunger and the cries of innocent children whose protests fill the stale air and daily, little bodies are carted off to burial because small frames can not withstand starvation and lack of medicine.

One senior UNICEF official warned: "It's not as bad as Ethiopia, but almost as bad. Iraq has never suffered from severe malnutrition before, but now it is evident in many of the young children who commonly have swollen hands, feet and distended bellies."

Abdul Jabar is an English teacher who when a student, wanted one day to have a garden containing all the flowers that he had read about in Shakespeare's plays and poems. After he married, he bought a small plot of land and built a comfy three room home, where he cultivated a garden dedicated to Shakespeare's ingenious writings, in which among other plants, roses and lilies grow.

Abdul Jabar has a wife and four daughters, one of whom is married. Since he retired, his government pension does not meet the needs of his family. His daughters remaining at home are all teenagers in school and require some kind of pocket money. Therefore, every afternoon, the former English teacher goes to the streets of Baghdad where he stands patiently by his portable table which carries used household equipment sold to him by those who need the money in order to eat.

Whatever the weather, in the cold of winter which chills to the bone or the heat of summer when the merciless sun bakes the earth to a dry crust, the English teacher waits for a customer to purchase something so that his family can manage to sustain themselves. As he stood one day, he remembered those pre-war times when he was happy with his family. Then his thoughts drifted back to home, to his aged mother with diabetes and how medicine for treatment is nearly impossible to procure. He envisioned his wife cooking meager staples and scrubbing down the white tile in their kitchen where she looks out on Shakespeare's garden, the only bright picture in sight. He wondered if his youngest daughter was taking care of the chicken that her dad raised during the Gulf War for at this time, one egg is almost equal to the monthly salary of a lecturer at a university. As for the severely malnourished babies, who can afford a tin of powdered milk which sells for over \$30 or a small bag of coffee which costs around \$75 or more while a small can of bologna is about \$36?

After work, before the dusky background of Iraq's ancient blue hills, the teacher trudged home with his wares bundled away and a few coins jingled in his pocket. To himself he whistled: "A hot cup of tea will hit the spot! I'm so tired of standing all day."

At home, he was greeted by his three daughters, his wife and his elderly mother who seemed to grow thinner every day. "Is supper ready?" he asked his wife, who nodded affirmatively.

As the family ate a warm meal, his wife announced: "I called my sister today in America. She says she's fine and sends her greetings. I had to wait in a long line at the telephone centre just to speak with her for three minutes, but it was good to hear her voice and to let her know that we are getting along somehow."

He sipped his hot, red, mint spiced tea, sighed and thought: "Yes we are managing, but for how long? How long can my mother live on half the insulin she needs? What if I get sick? Then who will support my family? How will the girls be able to finish their education? As it is now, we can't buy the food we need. Where are the good tomorrows that the girls deserve to dream about?"

After supper, he went to work in his garden. He dug some and pulled out a few weeds. Here, in his little patch of heaven surrounded by a vast expanse of hell, he felt at peace and peace was something he longed for. He looked at his neighbourhood. Some houses remained a pile of rubble. Sewage still filled the streets and he could always hear babies' cry because they never got enough to eat. A few doors down, he noticed the lights off in the house where his friend lived. His friend's daughter had cancer and before the war, progressed nicely from the treatment she was receiving, but now, she had become a regular patient in the children's ward and his friend had informed him: "The doctors' say there's not much chance of her surviving. Every day she looks weaker and thinner. I heard from the hospital staff that half the children who enter the hospital never get out alive. Diarrhoea seems to be the greatest killer of infants and my little girl is doomed to death too. But I can't understand why! She never hurt anyone!"

Not too far away from the teacher's home is the Ameriya bomb shelter where a pinpoint bomb blasted hundreds of people to their deaths. Though 324 bodies were removed, some bodies are still trapped inside. One of Abdul Jabar's fellow teachers lost all his family the night of the shelter's destruction.

Abdul Jabar fondly looked at his bouquet of flowers growing in Shakespeare's garden and hoped that soon the sanctions would be lifted and that the Iraqi people who had suffered enough would have a better future to look forward to and that once again young Iraqis would be able to laugh and play like children the world over.

Some of the Iraqi elite still attend fashion shows where the latest styles are modelled in front of a silent glaring crowd but clothes are very expensive and few can afford the price of a new dress or suit and regardless of how rich or poor anyone is, no one laughs as much as they used to or can ever forget the 40 days of Purgatory they suffered through.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

### BELIEVE IT OR NOT

★ During World War I two soldiers met. Both were Australians. Each was 19 years old. They had caught the same pulmonary disease. Their name was Franz Richter.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ An American city celebrates the Larvas Festival during which the natives colour their faces as if they were worms. A race competition is held among them to select the fastest "larva".

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ In Jeffersonville, Indiana, there is a graveyard specifically erected to contain the U.S.A. flags.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Last year a South Korean citizen shook hands with not less than 25,000 persons within eight hours.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Divorce which once had been considered taboo in China since the eighties apparently increased to reach one million cases in 1993 or the treble number in 1991. Statistics show that one out of five marriages presently end in divorce as a result of social change in this country. It is worthy noting that 20 per cent of the husbands in Beijing beat their wives.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— How about eating out tonight?  
Ma ra'yoka fee tanaawol al-taam karji al-bayt hazal-masaa?  
— That sounds good. Fikra tayyeba.  
— Shall we go to the Red Rose Restaurant?  
Atashab ala mat'am al-Warda al-Hamra?  
— Yes, but it is so expensive and crowded.  
Na'am walakinnaahu ghali jiddan wamuzdahim.  
— It is a romantic restaurant, isn't it?  
Innaahu mat'am sha'iri, alyasa kazzalik?  
— Then let's go for lunch. Ezzan linaashab lil-ghada.  
— Do you serve snacks?  
Hal tokaddimoon wajabat khaafifa?  
— Yes, you can have any of your assorted sandwiches.  
Na'am, yomkinook an tatanawol ayy shay min sha-ta'krina al-mustanawwa'a.  
— Please bring me the menu.  
Min fadlik al-dir lee qa'imat al-ta'am.  
— What's the price of the regular meal today?  
Ma thaman al-wajba al-andiya hazal-yom?  
— About 5 dinars excluding refreshments and service.  
Hawal khamset dananeer bidoon al-murattibat wal-khidma.

### TIME FOR FUN

★ A man saw a young lady washing a cat in the sea-water. Advising her, he said: "I'm afraid the cat would die of washing." But the woman didn't believe in what he said. A few hours later the man found the cat lying dead.

Blaming the lady for not listening to his advice, the kind-hearted man said: "Didn't I tell you that washing would cause death to the animal?"  
"He didn't die of washing but he died while wringing it!" the woman promptly answered.

★ A spinster once used to say: "I'll get married to nobody else but to a daring man. A friend of hers then enquired "Good heavens! Who would ever dare to ask your hand for marriage?"

★ Bernard Shaw was complaining about his miserable marriage but he often used to say: "Marriage is necessary for man. If a man succeeded in finding a virtuous woman, he would live happily. If he, on the other hand, was bound to marry a wicked woman, he would become a philosopher like me!"

### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. How did the pomegranate get its name?
2. How and when was the "guillotine" invented, and how did it get its name?
3. Who abolished slavery in the U.S. and when?
4. Supply the missing word in each space:  
a- Land of the Midnight Sun is.....  
b- The longest thoroughfare in the world is.....  
c- The term "penalty corner" is associated with.....

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### YOUR CHARACTER IN FOCUS

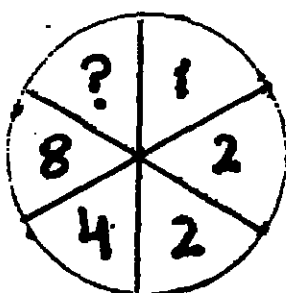
Born on June 4

- Likes peculiar people and things.
- Inventive and attracted to new ideas, reforms in social life and out of the way studies.
- Likely to have a considerable amount of annoyance and trouble from relations on account of his independent character.
- Active, intelligent, engaged in the reconstruction or the betterment of human life.
- Dislikes hypocrisy and loves art and music.
- Has an attractive personality.
- His drawbacks are: Changeability, domination, stubbornness, vindictiveness and jealousy.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### PUZZLES

(A) Insert the missing number:



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

(B) Insert the word in the brackets that can be prefixed by any of the letters on the left.

A  
SE  
BITU  
ABDO  
FROG  
YE  
O

## Exchanging stamps

To the Editor:

I am a 16-year-old girl from Poland interested in exchanging stamps and postcards. I could write in French, Spanish, Russian and Polish to those interested. My interest in stamps varies from culture, to history, geography, sports, fauna and flora.

Andre Novak  
93-193 LODZ  
Ul. Leczycka 32/3  
Poland.

## JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Aug. 18

7:15 Battistar Galactica

The human race is to be destroyed by the cyclones but Adama and son Apollo gather the survivors to escape to Earth.

8:30 Heart of Courage

Exploring ordinary people who saw children in danger, and acted without hesitation to save them from certain death.

9:10 Murder She Wrote

Appointment in Athens

Jessica helps the British intelligent men who are after a group dealing with smuggled weapons, and who had kidnapped one of their men.

10:00 News in English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Friday, Aug. 19

9:10 E.N.G.

False Step

A father avenges the murder of his 14-year-old daughter. The camera catches that

10:00 News in English

10:20 Emilie

Emilie is torn between two marriage proposals.

11:10 Dad's Army

The old recruits help bring down to earth a priest, who is caught by a flying balloon.

Saturday, Aug. 20

8:30 Movies, Games And Videos

9:30 The Campbells

Mirrors Of The Soul

Dr. James Campbell will soon find out how new medicines would compare to the old ones, when he finds himself among an American Indian tribe.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

Sunday, Aug. 21

8:30 Step By Step

Read All About It

When it comes to earning money, Frank believes

that the man in the house should be the one who earns the most.

9:10 Quantum Leap

Maybe Baby

It's a long journey for a little girl to find her real mother. Luckily Sam is her saviour and companion.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Snow River — The McGregor Saga

The Race

It's Australia, during the 19th century. A youngman, Luke, and his mother are back from America to fight for their rights to their land, taken over by a greedy uncle.

Monday, Aug. 22

8:30 Home Free

9:10 Galactic Odyssey

10:00 News In English

10:20 Matrix

11:10 No Job For A Lady

Jane seeks the help of her Labour colleague to help an Asian student to stay in Britain.

Tuesday, Aug. 23

8:30 Hollywood Stuntmakers

9:10 The Commish

10:00 News In English

10:20 Rose Against The Odds

Wednesday, Aug. 24

8:30 Bob

9:10 The Nature Of Things

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Nanny

The Gym Teacher

The Nanny saves Maggie's neck when she sits for a 'gym' exam.

11:10 Poldark

A fierce confrontation between Ross and George that ends with Ross being ordered out of the Poldark house.



## Susan Sarandon — mother, activist, actress and prosecutor Marcia Clark?

By Douglas J. Rowe  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Susan Sarandon already has the reputation as someone who could easily pass a current events quiz. So it's not surprising that the conversation during a recent interview eventually turned to one of the day's biggest stories.

She wondered whether O.J. Simpson can get a fair murder trial, then said several people have commented that the prosecutor, Marcia Clark, resembles her.

Ah, the casting has begun for the inevitable movie.

Not that Sarandon needs the role. She continually gets meaty parts and anyway, the role she likes most is mother.

While 9-year-old daughter Eva digs into a heap of ice cream capped with jimmies, Sarandon curls up in the corner of a sofa in a Manhattan hotel suite, wearing a white, flowered summer dress, and she explains how she ensures that her family's life suffers no disruptions by any movie she makes.

When director Joel Schumacher approached her about playing Reggie Love, the almost-but-not-quite-in-over-her-head lawyer in *The Client*, Sarandon made sure filming was scheduled for summer, while school's out, Schumacher promised a nice house and a good time for Sarandon and her children: 5-year-old Jack Henry and 2-year-old Miles — her kids by live-in lover Tim Robbins — as well as Eva,



Susan Sarandon

whose father is Italian director Franco Amurri.

Plus, her agents were saying: "Are you crazy? It's Grisham. Take it. Take it it's going to make millions and millions of dollars."

Certainly, John Grisham's potboiling novels have been adapted into box-office successes, if not critical ones. Which caused Sarandon to say, laughing:

"If it turns out to be the only Grisham that is not successful it will be a complete humiliation."

The 47-year-old red-haired gamine, who starred in *Atlantic City*, *Bull Durham*, *Thelma and Louise* (and let's not forget *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *Pretty Baby*), needs't worry.

Even though she's taken substantial time off in recent years, usually to have babies and rear her children, she's always managed to find a way back, she said.

"There're so few scripts that even come close to being as interesting as my kids. Having been in this business 20-some years: Been there, done that. I've also lived my life pretty hard. So there's not too many surprises in certain areas. I don't feel like I'm missing out on anything, so I'm very happy to stay home and explore family life."

Consequently, Sarandon, who has been nomin-

ated three times for the Best-Actress Academy Award, can eschew the Hollywood industrial complex by living in New York and risk contempt by speaking out on issues.

Still, it's cost her, she said.

"Absolutely, I think you've got to pay the price, you know. No pain, no gain — all those clichés that used to be written on your jeans somewhere in the '60s."

"I've been trying to impress upon my kids that life is just about making mistakes, that, you know, that's the process of learning what you want, who you are, going in whatever direction," said Sarandon, herself the eldest of nine children raised in New York City, then New Jersey.

"I hope they make them faster than I made mine, but making mistakes is not only OK, it's necessary. And I made a lot of mistakes — sometimes just bad calls in judgment or choices, or being in the wrong place at the wrong time, both on and off screen."

"I saw myself as a work in progress. So I feel very comfortable with where I am, because I've earned my faith, my place, my happiness, my life, through a process of elimination."

That explains, in part, why she's opted to portray characters who transcend their limitations while suffering.

"Lately, I like to play people that I like and that I admire, because in spite of their frailties, they take a chance, of some kind. It

can be as small as leaving your boyfriend and moving to a different apartment as in *White Palace* or it can be as obvious as bucking the medical establishment in *Lorenzo's Oil*. But they're all people who come up against a moment when they have to act one way or another, and they decide to become a protagonist in their own lives."

"And that's interesting to me," she said. "I'm not interested in playing people who know at the beginning of the movie that they're heroes."

"People say, 'you play so many strong, independent women.' They never feel like strong, independent women inside. To me, every inch of the way it's costing them something, 'till they get to the point where they're perceived as strong, independent women. Even in *Thelma and Louise*, her violent act brings with it a kind of morality; and from that point on I think that she's doomed."

"She's coming to terms with a lot of things. The defiant act is done, I felt, almost inadvertently."

It all began back at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., in the mid-1960s when Susan Abigail Tomalin switched from a major in English and philosophy to theatre arts after meeting an aspiring actor named Chris Sarandon. The two married in 1967 (and later divorced) and moved to New York.

Susan signed with a model agency and quickly landed her first movie role in 1970s *Joe*, while attending an audition with her



Actress Susan Sarandon in a scene from the film *The Client*

husband.

Because Sarandon regularly gets good roles, the question arises whether the notion that there's a death of good parts for women is overblown.

"I turn down so many terrible things," she responded. "And I don't work very often. There are certainly more leading roles for men. But I don't think very many of them are any good, either. So I'd say there's just a real shortage of fresh ideas and good characters and conflicts for everybody. And forget (it) if you happen to be a woman of colour, or even a man of colour."

Another reason for the paucity of parts is that fewer movies are made than they were before television, when the studios made "talky, grown-up kind of films" such as the ones with Hepburn and Tracy, she said.

"And they designed parts for Bette Davis, for Katharine Hepburn, and they weren't standing by the guy, waiting for him to figure something out. They were active parts."

Subsequently, however, the movie industry "got

kind of macho," she said, suggesting that among the factors was the ascendancy of the "child-woman and Marilyn Monroe."

"And as long as you have leading men who insist upon casting 20-year-olds when they're in their 50s, I suppose that doesn't help the cause, either."

Speaking of "causes," that brings up something that preoccupies her, too.

"I take personally a lot of things that a lot of people don't concern themselves with," she said.

Among those things: first amendment infringements (for which she fights through the Centre For Constitutional Rights), the environment, AIDS and homelessness.

"My kids ask questions and I want to be able to tell them this is the way the government works," she said, explaining that her children attend a Quaker school.

After she and Robbins criticised the U.S. government at the 1993 Oscar ceremony for not admitting 266 Haitians infected with HIV, she got some "really hateful, racist,

homophobic mail, which taught me the level of ignorance on certain issues, that I had underestimated the need for education on certain subjects."

Despite being called an obscenity and spat upon for her views, Sarandon intends to keep speaking out.

"I think I'm very careful," she said. "I'm very selective in what I do. I'm thoughtful about it beforehand. I don't just show up and do things and say things in some kind of liberal, knee-jerk reaction to some sentimental issue — because I know I could not only hurt myself and my family, but I can void my potential power in the future to affect anything politically."

It should be no mystery why she gets politically involved, she ventured.

"I think it's ironic that the press says to me, 'why do you do this?' and I say, 'because you won't be there unless there's one or two of us (celebrities) out there. ... It makes a good picture, that's why I'm out there. That's just the way it works.'"

## Actress' career blossoms on both sides of the Atlantic

By Bob Thomas  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — For three decades, Joan Plowright remained in the shadow of her husband, the drama titan Sir Laurence Olivier, raising their children, appearing with him in the theatre nursing him in his last painful years.

Now Plowright is one of the movie world's busiest actresses, finding rich roles on both sides of the Atlantic. The latest is the imperious Irish dowager in *Widow's Peak*, which has been delighting audiences and earning tidy sums in a limited release across the country.

Like *Enchanted April*, *Four Weddings And A Funeral* and other charmers from abroad, it is likely to enjoy a long life among discriminating audiences.

The actress was asked why such films seem to be made in Europe and not here.

"It's the writer," she explained. "I think Europeans are more interested in the script to begin with, rather than a star vehicle for a certain performer. There is a passion about the story and the way it's written, and then you cast."

"Very often in America, because the stars are much bigger than those in Europe, they have to go to a formula. There are probably many wonderful actors in America who would be delighted to do the kind of scripts you're talking about. But they would have to take half the money, perhaps a third. Maybe their agents won't let them."

Plowright, 64, was interviewed at the Westwood Marquis Hotel, a few steps from campus of the University of California at Los Angeles. She and Olivier often stayed



Actress Joan Plowright, shown *Peak*, is finding rich roles on both sides of the Atlantic

there when their son, Richard, was studying at UCLA. Her visits have been frequent because of offers from Hollywood producers.

"I think I owe my time in Hollywood to Laurence Kasdan, who brought me over to do *I Love You To Death*," she said. (She played an American who helped daughter Tracy Ullman plot son-in-law Kevin Kline's death.)

"From there it kind of snowballed. Barry Levinson, who was a friend, was looking for Eva in *Avalon*, and I moved into that. And then it's gone on from there," she said.

The Hollywood films range from *The Last Action Hero* with Arnold Schwarzenegger to *Dennis The Menace* with Walter Matthau. She also has been busy in television, including a pilot for *Driving Miss Daisy*.

Plowright seems able to slide gracefully from her own English accent to American or Irish. She has helped from a dialogue coach on the set, and her

many visits to these shores have accustomed her to American rhythms.

Her accent for *Widow's Peak* was no problem — "the Irish being so near, and because we have a lot of expatriate Irish in London. ... Once you move over to Ireland and live among them, it does come quite easily. And in our drama schools in England, we are taught those accents as part of our craft."

The daughter of a Southorpe newspaper editor, Plowright studied at the Old Vic Theatre School and soon was playing major roles in the London Theatre. Her life changed when she was cast in John Osborne's *The Entertainer*, which starred Laurence Olivier. A year later they married.

The actress repeated her role in the film version of *The Entertainer*, but most of her early career was devoted to the theatre, often appearing opposite her husband.

"We wanted to be together, and we were bringing up a family," she

said. "So going away for films was not really possible. It didn't fit into the lifestyle. Nor was I offered many films. I really didn't get into it until I was older. It's like a bonus. It's a very exciting time."

All of her children followed their parents into the theatre. Richard is a director, Tamsin and Julie are actresses.

Did Plowright and Olivier try to dissuade them? "We did try," Plowright smiled. "It's very difficult for children of actors, because the people you have around the house are in the profession, and to your children they are more interesting and exciting."

"Children should be given the key to unlock any door and not just think that this profession is the only one in the world. But actors do talk to children as people. Doctors and lawyers and those kinds of people treat them as children. And so the children think, 'I like to be among those people (actors).'"

By Peter Mackler  
Agence France Presse

WASHINGTON — In the beginning, before the peace and love, there was mud and stench. And the Woodstock generation saw the mud and the stench, and the peace and the love, and said: "Let there be hype."

With Americans celebrating the 25th anniversary of the fabled Woodstock rock concert, details of what really happened on that New York state farm where 400,000 hippies wallowed in filth, drugs and music are hazy.

Reams of newspaper stories, books, records and a masterful film have turned the three-day event into an epic moment, the crowning achievement of the free-wheeling 1960s and its love-generation apostles.

It's been likened to a cross between an anti-war protest and the Sermon on the Mount, complete with a soothing loudspeaker voice wafting over the sloping meadows urging all to love thy neighbour and beware of bad acid.

Never mind the myths. No, my children, folk icon Bob Dylan was not at the Aug. 15-17, 1969 extravaganza, nor were the Rolling Stones. Joni Mitchell, who composed the much-sung "Woodstock" anthem was not there.

Even Woodstock wasn't there — the concert was held 50 miles (80 kilometres) southwest of the chic artists' colony on a 600-acre (240-hectare) dairy farm near Bethel in the shadow of Catskill Mountains.

But none of that took the luster off Woodstock, and organisers of a giant anniversary concert on an even bigger New York farm had no illusions about repeating the experience with the children of the '60s.

"It's like the last one was a complete accident," said Stephen Sills, of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young who sang at the first Woodstock and will sing at the second. "It was

## Woodstock: Peace, love, mud and hype

dirty and yucky, and there was magic in the air."

Indeed those who were there (really there), remember that for all its promise and pageant the "Woodstock Music and Art Fair: An Aquarian Exposition" started out as, well, the pits.

The rain started the night before and stayed in spurts until the last day Sunday. What little food was available from local stores quickly ran out and the kids were reduced to plundering the corn field to get by.

By the time the concert was in full swing, the grounds were stinking with sewage, the 1,000 portable toilets were backing up and many people were thinking of leaving — if only the roads were not blocked by new arrivals.

The potential for tragedy was enormous.

The rain could have washed out the entire festival and whipping winds could have tipped the rickety light towers into the dense crowd, killing scores of people. Bad drugs circulated freely, raising the spectre of a mass freak-out.

But at some point, no-

body can say exactly when, the disaster-area mentality set in. The organisers, seeking to avoid a riot, threw open the gates and let in nearly 300,000 people free on top of the 120,000 who bought tickets.

For their part, the famished throng realised that if they could just stick it out, they could give the world a lesson in the communal harmony that was a byword of the '60s.

So people started sharing their tents and supplies. Some banded together to fashion makeshift lodgings in the woods out of canvass and straw. Others turned their minivans into ad hoc rooming houses.

The Hog Farm commune, led by a folksy big-haired character called Wavy Gravy, helped youths experience bad trips on drugs. Other groups also set up soup kitchens or roamed the farm doling out free rice, beans, vegetable stew, potato chips and granola.

The aura of invincibility was just as thick as the naivete. "Just love everybody around you and clean up a little bit of garbage on the way out

and everything will be all right," gushed mutton-chopped folk singer John Sebastian.

Miraculously, it was all right. Almost.

Three people were killed, one by drugs and two by vehicles. More than 100 people were arrested for drug offences but another 5,000 were treated for bum trips and other maladies. Not bad for a middle-sized U.S. city.

Pundits have lately been more cynical about what it all meant. "Woodstock proved only that it takes nicely brought up young people more than three days to revert to savagery," *Newsweek* magazine wrote last week.

Others will tell you the spirit of Woodstock died four months later when a Rolling Stones fan was stabbed by Hells Angels at a concert at the Altamont Speedway in California.

Bobbie and Nick Eccline symbolised this paradise when they were photographed in a weary hug wrapped in a dirty bedsheet in the middle of the crowd. The image made posters and the cover of the *Woodstock* album.

Now Bobbie is a part-time nurse at an elementary school and Nick a business agent for a carpenters' union. Both are 45 and they are not about to forget their fling on the farm a quarter century ago.



Three people sit in the mud and rains turned the concert grounds into a field of mud (AFP photo)



# Cell 'suicide' may be key to new cancer drugs

By Ben Hirschler  
Reuter

LONDON — The failure of cancer cells to "commit suicide" like normal cells in the body may hold the key to a new generation of anti-cancer drugs, British researchers believe.

Traditionally, scientists have viewed cancer as a disease caused by uncontrolled cell division, leading to tumours. But Dr. Gerard Evan and his colleagues at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) charity are convinced this is only half the story.

gene, called C-MYC, which not only tells cells to divide but at the same time primes them for death, suggests another cause of cancer may be cells' failure to die on time. The gene appears to malfunction in tumours.

"It looks like many tumours — perhaps most tumours, perhaps all tumours — have lost the ability to commit suicide. They are simply not dying like they should," Dr. Evan said in an interview.

Timely cell death is vital to health. Every hour one billion cells self-destruct as the human body re-

places and repairs ageing tissue.

Correcting tumour cells' defective mechanism of programmed cell death, or apoptosis, which occurs naturally in normal cells, opens a new avenue in the fight against cancer.

"This is a very different approach to cancer. It's taking the whole business of what cancer is apart and rethinking it," Dr. Evan said.

The ICRF has now joined forces with biotechnology company Apoptosis Technology, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to develop new drugs de-

signed to regulate cell death.

Screening for drug candidates is underway and the first could enter clinical trials in five to ten years, Dr. Evan said.

The new "cell suicide" drugs should have big advantages over current cancer chemotherapies which target rapidly proliferating tumour cells but also hit normal fast-growing ones, causing the well-known side effects of nausea, baldness and damage to the immune system.

The key to developing such drugs lies in identify-

ing the biochemical pathway which leads to cell suicide — and finding ways of correcting it when it goes wrong.

Dr. Evan's crucial discovery is that normal cells survive and go on dividing only because of the presence of chemical signals which override the self-destruct message contained in the C-MYC gene.

The problem is most tumour cells have a defective C-MYC gene which does not respond properly to these chemical signals and the cells think they are getting a signal to go

on reproducing when they are not.

As a result, tumour cells go on dividing indefinitely.

In a paper published last month, even identified one of the signals involved as a hormone in the blood, an insulin-like growth factor (IGF-1). He found tumour cells were staying alive because they thought were receiving IGF-1, when in fact they were not.

This discovery gives pharmacologists a chance to intervene by finding chemicals that mimic or disrupt the signal given by

IFG-1 and other possible "survival factors."

The end result could be drugs with a highly-specific ability to block off survival pathways. There may be numerous signals involved in various cancers, suggesting different "cell suicide" drugs to deal with, say, lung cancer compared to breast cancer.

Work on apoptosis in cancer could also help the search for cures to other very different diseases like Alzheimer's and even AIDS, where normal cells die too soon.

In Alzheimer's, for ex-

ample, scientists believe that the degeneration of nerve cells in the brain may be due, at least in part, to excessive cell suicide.

Treatments for these conditions would, in effect, be mirror-image drugs to those used in cancer — designed to promote cell survival pathways rather than shut them down.

"It's a difference. But once you get hold of the levers and pulleys with drugs you can begin to manipulate the molecular mechanism at will," said Dr. Evan.

## Father Jaouen — the saviour of drug-addicts

Father Jaouen is a Jesuit. His mission-land was the street with its young delinquents, the prison and the hostel for former prisoners. Now, he sails across the Atlantic on a three-masted boat. With him, they are about twenty drug-addicts who, caught up in the solidarity effort demanded by life at sea, leave off narcotics.

By Jean-Marc Dupuch

PARIS — "With the Pole Star, you always know where you are at sea. With 'love one another', you sail around the world." It is not very complicated. That is how Father Jaouen thinks. As a real Breton, he is familiar with the sea and with the Pole Star. So, for the last 25 years or so, he has been taking young people who have turned out badly in life, on board his three-masted boat, with former prisoners to begin with, and then young drop-outs who have been thrown out of school, and then drug-addicts.

They do not really set off on a world tour, but, in four or five months of sailing, from Brest in Brittany to the French West Indies and back, they have

time to bring about a revolution in themselves. They set off as drug-addicts and come back free. On board, there is obviously no dope, no alcohol, no psychiatrist either, no mass and no substitution drugs. Just girls and boys, young adults who have become infatuated in their addiction, a voluntary crew and Captain Jaouen.

The only remedies are life at sea, task-sharing and talking. Indeed, a lot of talking goes on, on board the Bel Espoir and the Rara-Avis. "The boat is a marvellous tool for communication." Yes, but what about the terrific dependence on drugs? "Whether they suffer from withdrawal or not, I don't want to know. When we cast off from Brest, they are ill for three or

four days" and live like rats, without moving. Then comes the sun and that's when they no longer speak about their need for drugs and start to get back into shape physically."

To the blazes with endless therapy, snivelling pleas and paralysing aid. "Let us stop lamenting about the fate of drug-addicts and taking care of them. It is up to them to take charge of themselves. They know it. The only thing that I can do for them is to give them a good 'kick in the arse' when needed". And it works. Love one another is not a load of nonsense. The captain's fits of shouting are legendary. His first order, "bloody well get on with being happy" is not airy-fairy. One does not speak like at a Sunday tea-party when one is on board ship, and even less so in prison.

Before going to sea with drug-addicts, Father Jaouen had been the prison chaplain at Fresnes in the minors' section, for ten years. He had ended up there by force of circumstances, so as not to let down the young delinquents whom he knew. In Fresnes, he had done good work, but it was not enough for him as the real problem, and he was all

too aware of it, was when they come out of prison and people find themselves in the street without anybody or anything.

So, by dint of perseverance, Father Jaouen succeeded in having a place created for the purpose of the social reintegration of former prisoners. This was the Foyer Des Epinettes which has a hundred and ten rooms for its residents, a restaurant and ... a night-club. The last two are open to the public. He ran them for ten years without there ever being a brawl.

It was at this time that he thought about getting a boat for the young people in his hostel. He bought a second-hand three-masted boat which he renamed "Bel Espoir" (Fine Hope). In 1971 the minister of youth and sports asked him to do something to help drug-addicts. This is how his Atlantic crossings began. Famous sailors consider him as one of them. Eric Tabarly, Olivier de Kersauzon, Florence Arthaud and Loïc Peyron are his friends.

One is not born in Breton for nothing. At Ouessant, the wind from the open sea blows an air of freedom and courage. "I have always had the sea in



Father Jaouen tells young addicts: "Cleanup to be happy"

my life," Michel Jaouen admits. His father was a doctor with fifteen children. The ten sisters and five brothers lived a solitary open-air life. The family came from a modest background, but was none the worse off for that. "People have forgotten that one can be happy living simply."

Michel was brought up by the Jesuits. In 1939, he entered the seminary quite naturally, just like others become sailors or farmers. He wanted to be a missionary and dreamed of China. But he found himself working in the

suburbs. It was also quite naturally that he refused compulsory labour in Germany and joined the Resistance in 1943.

Today, Father Jaouen is 72 and he continues to sail across the Atlantic on Rara Avis, without any intention of stopping. He also mobilises crowds to obtain the necessary funding to repair Bel Espoir. A boat is important. All the ports in the world should have one, to have people sail and thus to put them in a situation where they talk to one another — L'Actualite En France.

## Study finds little condom use in couples with AIDS

BOSTON (R) — Heterosexual couples often do not use condoms during sex even when the partner is known to be infected with the AIDS virus, according to a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The study is discouraging news for health officials hoping to contain the spread of the deadly virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

It suggests that even the direct threat of infecting a partner is not sufficient to persuade people to use proper protection against the disease.

The researchers also confirmed that condoms are the only reliable method for preventing the spread of the virus, known as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Dr. Isabella De Vincenzi and her colleagues at the European Study Group on Heterosexual Transmission of HIV, which includes 10 medical centres in eight countries, discovered that patients who have already been made ill by the disease are more likely to transmit it to their partners.

Dr. De Vincenzi is based at the St. Maurice National Hospital in France.

The researchers tracked the cases of 256 men and women whose partners were infected with HIV. They found that

only 48 per cent consistently used condoms for vaginal and anal intercourse. Among those couples, there were no new HIV infections.

For the 121 couples who did not regularly use condoms, 12 of the uninfected partners contracted HIV. This led the team to calculate that the risk of infection from unprotected sex was about five per cent per year.

The risk depended on how ill the infected person was. Among those who had developed full-blown symptoms of AIDS and did not use condoms regularly, nearly half infected their partners during the study. Just eight per cent of those infected but who did not show AIDS symptoms spread the virus to their partners.

"The clinical status of the HIV-infected partner greatly influences the risk of transmission per sexual contact, suggesting that some people are highly infectious and others hardly infectious at all," the researchers concluded.

Among the study's other findings:

One quarter of the couples where one person was known to be infected by HIV said they rarely or never used condoms.

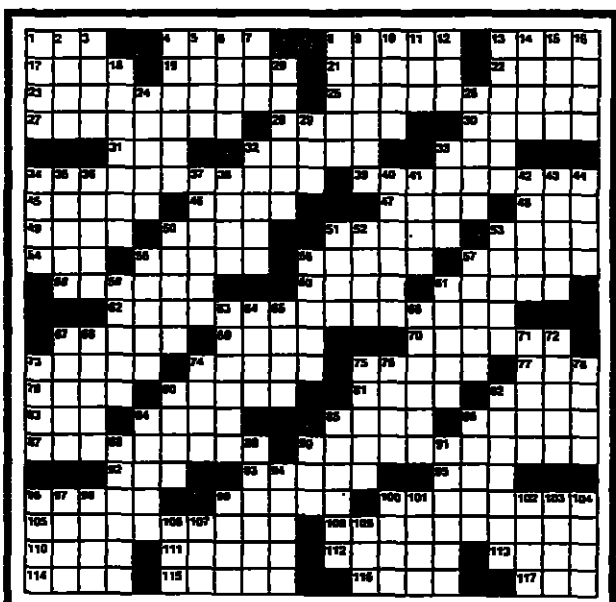
It often took a diagnosis of full-blown AIDS for a couple to begin using condoms for each sexual encounter.

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

MARINE LIFE

By Dorothy B. Martin

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ACROSS                      | DOWN                     |
| 1. Killer fish              | 1. Clams                 |
| 4. Mollusk shell            | 2. Medusae               |
| 8. Modern religion          | 3. River to the Atlantic |
| 13. Cultured woman          | 4. Former German state   |
| 17. Asian lake              | 5. Packer Nolan          |
| 21. Parakeet                | 6. Day                   |
| 25. Plant with spiky leaves | 7. Not what you (mean)   |
| 29. Vulture                 | 8. The world             |
| 33. Sweater type            | 9. Chisel                |
| 37. Nightingale             | 10. Parasol              |
| 41. Takes it easy           | 11. Dingo                |
| 45. Building wing           | 12. Singer Torie         |
| 49. It's hot to             | 13. Dingo                |
| 53. Lives left              | 14. Cheek cover          |
| 57. Long eared dog          | 15. Lovers               |
| 61. Colorado                | 16. Swallows             |
| 65. Antelope                | 17. Agree to             |
| 69. Rodent                  |                          |
| 73. Hawk                    |                          |
| 77. Ancient Indian of Peru  |                          |
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Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Famous football player on as he stands at plate facing timid pitcher on mound.
2. Bulky blunder had no problem blowing out multiple candles on his big birthday cake.
3. Excited tourist wonders whether to choose Europe or Hawaii as next trip.
4. Artist made specialty of painting large landscapes for many patrons.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. YRQJBNPNERNLWERTQBWHWRA DTECE  
ETI QYETRIC EA DWRAE YEL PWB RJAN.

—By Karl Ireland

2. BRYO YOU CALUMY PH OUNEHIN  
CQBUZEMD KCSORMUQ "YUNYOPMU  
YCD" RQ SPIMYUA PIZ HCLPZYU DCEU.

—By Barbara J. Rugg

3. YOERBS LAVISH BSCL MOXLAOX BRUSH.  
LVYRT CQVHE LYEMRIT YVA EMSRA  
NRUSH.

—By Adam Christopher

4. YCTSPFATF LCYUD EH HOYID WNC  
MATEFPWEO IAU TSECTS WCNE PLAYD  
KYCRAL PISPD DRAFTSMNNE.—By Ed Buddelton

5. Kind of wrestling  
6. Ship's personnel  
7. Ship's personnel  
8. Ship's personnel  
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## Carlos' lawyers charge kidnap, say he will not reveal secrets

PARIS (Agencies) — Defense lawyers for Ilich Ramirez Sanchez or Carlos the Jackal, said Wednesday they would challenge the legality of their client's extradition to France, accusing French agents of kidnapping him.

"We have held discussions on elements of the complaint that we intend filing for his kidnapping," lawyer Mourad Oussedik said after he and fellow defense lawyer Jacques Verges met with Carlos at La Santé prison in Paris.

Speaking a day after Carlos was arraigned on charges of murder in connection with a 1982 bombing in Paris, Mr. Verges said he did not believe Carlos would reveal the secrets learned in 20 years of international terrorism.

"I don't think he will go into any details," Mr. Verges said. "He is not an informer and he has nothing but contempt for those who betray and sell out."

Carlos was arrested by Sudanese officials on Sunday and handed over to French counter-intelligence agents who flew him out to Paris on Monday.

Outlining the basis for his legal challenge to the procedure, Mr. Verges said: "Carlos was not subject to an extradition, in other words his arrest was not asked for by French justice through diplomatic channels and confirmed by a court decision in Sudan."

"He was kidnapped following an exchange of letters between the French and the Sudanese interior ministers," he added.

Mr. Oussedik accused the authorities in Sudan of acting like mafia turncoats who agree to collaborate with police in return for immunity from prosecution.

"Sudan was caught red-handed as a terrorist state," and like mafia informers,

"they negotiated in an attempt to clear themselves and regain some respect on the international scene," the lawyer said.

France "certainly gave them something, specific material or logistics aid to help them fight rebels in the south (of the country), supplies, weapons perhaps," he suggested.

"On Sunday, he was at home with his wife and daughter when the Sudanese policemen entrusted with his protection threw themselves on him, bound him, put a hood on him and gave him an injection," Mr. Oussedik said.

It was only after Carlos arrived in Paris on a special flight that he was handed a national arrest warrant, he said.

Nevertheless, the left-wing daily Liberation said on Wednesday that Sudan's cooperation may be linked to Paris's bid to head off a deepening crisis in Algeria.

It said France could want to cultivate ties with Sudan's Muslim leaders, hoping for help in mediating with Algeria's outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

Allegation of dubious deals with extremist groups and rogue governments are nothing new in France.

Earlier this year, Paris declined to hand over two suspected Iranian killers to Switzerland, despite an extradition request.

There have been allegations Paris struck a secret deal with the Abu Nidal guerrilla group to prevent attacks on French targets. In 1992, France also allowed Palestinian leader George Habash to receive medical treatment in Paris.

In 1990, France denied allegations it traded Mirage warplanes for hostages freed in Lebanon. Three years earlier, similar charges surfaced

over an alleged deal with Iran for the release of other hostages in Beirut.

Both France and Sudan have denied allegations of a deal. French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua reiterated Wednesday that there had been "no quid pro quo" and foreign ministry spokesman Richard Duque said France's relations with Sudan remain characterized "by prudence."

Mr. Verges said that Carlos was very relaxed during their meeting in the maximum security block at the Paris prison.

"We spoke about films, economic policy, literature and a thousand other things, he's a very cultivated man," he said.

Mr. Oussedik added: "He showed no apprehension, no tension. He's a very intellectually balanced man, very disciplined."

Meanwhile, the daily Le Monde reported that German security services had delivered documents to Judge Jean-Louis Bruguiere, the anti-terrorist magistrate handling the Carlos prosecution, alleging that Mr. Verges was an "operational member" of Carlos' group in the 1980s.

The newspaper said the information was contained in the files of the former East German secret police, the Stasi.

Mr. Verges denied the allegation.

Mr. Verges, dampening hopes that Carlos might give away secrets of state backing for guerrillas, indicated that he would not betray his friends.

Asked whether Carlos would plead that he had not acted alone during his criminal career, Mr. Verges answered: "Carlos will not behave like the Sudanese authorities who sold a guest and betrayed him. He will justify his action."

## Jordan and Israel conclude talks

(Continued from page 1)

of a "lasting, honourable peace agreement."

On that count, Jordanian and Israeli negotiators reminded the press and through them the public, that their detailed negotiations cannot provide breakthroughs every day.

But they were also careful to publicly stress their commitment to pressing ahead with their negotiations until they have laid down the foundations for full peace, a foundation that both sides say needs to be built by the leaders of the two countries before any final breakthrough is announced.

"Resolution of the difficult issues must be satisfactory and just to both sides because if one side is happy and the other is not, then it is not going to work," chief Israeli negotiator Elyakim Rubenstein told Jordanian reporters Wednesday.

"We are working based on this assumption," he said. According to Jordanian delegation sources, the Israeli "assumption" may be leading the Israeli side to believe that Jordan is working towards "deals" rather than a comprehensive solution of outstanding problems, especially those over security, water and boundaries.

Mr. Rubenstein told Jordanian reporters that his team on water was working diligently to "make a deal" that will address both the water sharing issue and "augmenting" these talks with ways of ensuring "availability of additional water."

"We are going to work on the rightful allocation of both sides but it is not enough," Mr. Rubenstein said.

"Both countries need more than the God-given situation and we wish to develop more," he added. "We have to make a deal. We will work together and we will find it. I

am very optimistic."

But Jordanian sources told the Jordan Times that the Israeli "stalling" tactics continue to dominate these negotiations and that they believe that the water issue will only be completely resolved by a political decision of the leadership, a sentiment that Mr. Rubenstein appeared to echo in his short press meeting with Jordanian press.

Speaking about the progress made in the negotiations on borders, Ambassador Rubenstein said that his country suggested that all technical meetings on this issue become continuous, which he said "is a very good omen" for a resolution of this problem.

But while those commitments will plot on in their technical negotiations, "finally" there will be what he called a "political level" decision to resolve the problem completely.

Mr. Rubenstein said that the Jordanian side had given an "impressive" presentation on the territory occupied by Israel.

Marwan Muasher, a spokesperson of the Jordanian delegation, told reporters that the Kingdom's teeth had given "a detailed presentation of the Jordanian position on boundaries including the areas of these territories and their location."

On Wednesday, the Israeli side presented part of its counterproposal, which along with the Jordanian one, according to Mr. Rubenstein, "will form the basis for further negotiations."

On this issue, Mr. Rubenstein said he was sure that "we will find a way" to resolve the boundaries issue.

But as the Jordanian negotiators were getting bogged down in the details of other detailed and technical nego-

tations with the Israeli side, the Israeli side received another "goodwill" gesture from Jordan with the short visit of Dr. Adwan.

As the first visit to Israel by a cabinet minister, Dr. Adwan's presence at the Moriah Hotel Wednesday drew the limelight away from the bilateral, at least for the Israeli press.

Although Jordanian delegation sources stressed that Dr. Adwan's visit comes as part of the bilateral negotiations on tourism and is "not an official visit to Israel by a cabinet minister," the symbolism in this gesture was not lost on the Israeli side.

Dr. Adwan, who did not conduct any negotiations with his Israeli counterpart, arrived at the hotel to bolster a meeting between Jordanian and Israeli tour operators in which Jordan gave a slide presentation of its touristic attractions.

Dr. Adwan, in a short address to the meeting of tour operators, said that he hoped the Kingdom and Israel would reach agreement on the fundamental elements of their negotiations so that cooperation in tourism can bring prosperity to both countries.

On another level, a Jordanian negotiations source denied that the Kingdom and Israel had agreed on a three point security draft, which among other things, would have committed the Kingdom to staying out of any military coalition that threatened the security of Israel.

"This idea is not even on the table, we rejected it outright," the source told the Jordan Times.

Dr. Muasher said negotiations on flights by Royal Jordanian across Israeli airspace were stuck Wednesday over the altitude at which the planes should fly.

## PLO issues stiff warning to Hamas; Israel unimpressed

GAZA (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, under pressure to end guerrilla attacks against Israelis, has warned Gaza militants against carrying weapons in public, activists of Hamas said on Wednesday.

They said a senior Palestinian security officer in the south of the Gaza self-rule zone met seven Hamas activists in his office late on Tuesday, telling them that Mr. Arafat ordered a crackdown on violations of security in the Gaza Strip.

"We were informed... that the (Palestinian) authority, on orders from the president (Arafat), will act to ensure security, tranquillity and quiet no matter what the consequences are," one Hamas activist who attended the meeting said.

The officer was quoted as saying Palestinian security forces will curb those who carry weapons or cover their faces with masks.

Hamas has spearheaded violent opposition to the 11-month-old Israeli-PLO peace deal.

After Hamas men killed one Israeli and wounded six on Sunday in Gaza, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the future of peace moves depended on the PLO's making a serious effort to suppress the violence.

The Palestinian authority which administers self-rule rounded up some 40 Hamas activists for questioning about the attacks, sparking the anger of opponents of the peace deal.

Hamas sources said all but five activists have been released.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said before leaving for talks with senior Palestinian officials in Egypt on Wednesday.

day the PLO's role in stemming attacks would be high on the agenda.

Mr. Rabin has said the Palestinian measures against Hamas had been an ineffective media stunt rather than a concentrated effort to halt anti-Israeli violence, Israeli reports said.

Israeli radios quoted Mr. Rabin as saying in a meeting with religious legislators that the Palestinian police mostly made political moves against the Islamic activists rather than effective, energetic arrests.

Mr. Rabin's spokesman, Oded Ben-Ami would not confirm the remarks, saying the meeting with the legislators from the National Religious Party had been closed.

Israel itself moved against at least two activists from Hamas.

Relatives said Yasser Rajoub, the brother of Jibril Rajoub, who heads Palestinian security in the autonomous area of Jericho, was arrested at home in Dura, a West Bank village near Hebron.

The relatives said Mr. Rajoub, 35, was arrested by Israeli soldiers and intelligence agents who searched his home late Tuesday. He was among 400 Hamas activists whom Israel expelled to Lebanon in December 1992 for a year. His brother was not available for comment.

Israeli troops also arrested Hamas activist Khaled Sabhi at an army checkpoint near the Kissufim junction where one Israeli was shot dead and six wounded in two attacks Sunday, the Israeli radio reports said.

The Palestinian liaison committee demanded that he be handed over to them, they said. The army would not comment on either arrest.

## AIDS

18 per cent of the infected persons contracted HIV. Among those there were no infections. The 121 couples who regularly use one of the condoms contracted HIV. The team to study the risk of infection unprotected was about five per year.

risk depended on the infected person. Among those who developed full-blown AIDS, the use of condoms nearly halved the risk. Just eight per cent of the infected persons showed AIDS symptoms.

spread the virus. A clinical study of IV-infected persons influences the transmission per sex act, suggesting that people are less infectious and less infectious at researchers.

ing the study findings: quarter of the infected persons said they rarely used condoms. ten took a diagnosis to begin using for each sexual act.

## Prince outlines commission approach

(Continued from page 1)

and the USA. His Majesty's message calls upon us to make Jordan capable of interaction with the said areas and regions as well as with the forenamed countries.

For more than two decades now, we have been talking about the investment path, which we metaphorically called passion path, regardless of whether the would be investor is Arab or non-Arab. Official channels cannot be solely relied upon. Personal contacts, to be sure, are recognised to be less time consuming. In fact we are accustomed to means via which official channels are circumvented.

We believe tendering to be the more appropriate one, particularly in talking about a central purchasing administration.

In saying this we must be careful to point out that within this context we are concerned with public funds and as such these funds must be carefully administered and handled. But this only represents the execution aspect of the issue. We must turn our attention to the philosophical aspect too.

Above all we must be careful not to allow room for endeavors undertaken off-handly in the field of promoting foreign investment.

It is true that the best investment is a sound idea, and this does not necessarily always involve the investment of capital. In talking about the private sector, we are in fact talking about many innovative industries that have recently come into being. What was in many cases invested was something of a feasibility study not necessarily involving big capital.

With regard to the private sector, we have been demanding the appearance of certain homogenous groups. Thus, when an Arab or foreign investor appears, he/she can be easily guided to the concerned sector.

We are still talking of the chambers of commerce and industry as though they represent all Jordanian activities; we are still taking of elections for a proper representation of the private sector; and of an individual Amman shop which is democratically the equivalent of a large concern. I would like us to pause a while in order and consider the following points:

1. Jordan, as I said earlier, is a pivotal state, in the geographical sense. Its laws and regulation must be fully complied with by all. Our basic

task here is to clarify the exact bodies of law that must be adhered to within this very context.

2. No party to any business transaction shall be allowed to render benefit in the interest of a civil servant. Nor shall the latter be allowed to extend benefit, directly or otherwise, to any of his/her relatives and/or associates.

Proper measures must be taken to ensure that sub-contracts are not to be re-invested.

4. Measures must be taken to ensure that commissions, or any other form of reward, shall not exceed what is deemed fair in terms of compensation for legitimate services rendered. In this respect, I wish to be allowed to say something about the alternative service used by several European and Gulf countries: instead of commissions going to middlemen they should be employed in the development of the sector concerned in the same manner that profits are carried over and actuated.

5. Consultants and middlemen must provide the concerned authority with any relevant information pertaining to the names of the firms or persons they represent, and the amounts of the commissions that are due as a result.

6. Parties shall keep proper records, apply the most up-to-date accounting procedures, and register all transactions with precision, accuracy and honesty. Records must always be ready for inspection whenever required by the concerned authorities.

As a result, secret or unrecorded accounts must be prohibited. These are axioms which the public must be reminded of. I wish to add further that in stressing these points nothing personal is intended what-so-ever. What is intended is an amplification of the sincere desire to see that Jordan is truly reflected as a polyarchy: a country of active, democratic institutions that both call to account and is accountable. As far as standards of conduct are concerned, I sincerely hope that respect for laws and criteria constitute the provisions of article one. Parties to international business transactions are duty bound to pay heed to all relevant legislation and to ensure that the letter and spirit of the criteria involved are duly observed.

Article two is in connection with unsavory temptations which must not be resorted to by a party to a commercial deal. Civil servants must not be made beneficiaries, whether directly or otherwise, in return for services

rendered by them in this respect.

Moreover, sub-contracts undertaken primarily as a means whereby civil servants with decision-making powers are compensated in return for services rendered must be forbidden.

Article three concerns agents and consultants. In this respect parties to business transactions must take reasonable measures, within their own respective terms of reference, to ensure that agents, middlemen and consultants are fairly paid in return for legitimate services rendered. Such sums, however, must not be paid in contravention of such a criterion. Parties concerned must desist from appointing agents, middlemen, and consultants with a view to gaining access to some privileged information. Agents, middlemen, and consultants must in turn submit information to the concerned authorities highlighting the firms they represent and the commissions obtained in return for services rendered.

In discussing such points, we do not intend to intimidate or scare parties. What we aim at is reasonable persuasion within the bounds of law.

As His Majesty the King has pointed out, arrangements concerning the internal structure must be legally and institutionally based. We must, furthermore, strive to promote our legislation in a manner whereby we are able to deal adequately with the outside world. To this effect, a foreign language speaker must not be made to feel that he/she is in the midst of practices that are in effect alien to contemporary Jordan. Your role is essential in clarifying the dimensions of this grand project.

I am confident that you shall make clear contributions in this respect and that our endeavour during the first week will be an added effort to the ideas expressed during this first meeting. Any effort in this regard, be it the establishment of a task force or any other measure, is a contribution to the internal structure and an integral part of it. I expect you during the first week of the Commission's activities to form a methodology for the basis of our work.

As far as the method of dealing with the outside world is concerned, as well as the establishment of a central purchasing administration, I believe that a specialised task-force of this nature require full-time consideration with view to arriving at an accepted procedure.

I thank you for listening.

## King: No Jerusalem visit anytime soon

(Continued from page 1)

manner concerning all stands," he said.

"I deeply respect and appreciate our relationship which has outlasted differences in views and I believe that soon our relations with Syria would resume normally and we will meet and discuss issues with a greater measure of clarity and candidness in a manner that would safeguard mutual interest."

The King said that Jordan welcomes moves for Jordanian Syrian integration, especially as the two countries are currently cooperating in a number of fields.

"I wish that efforts will be instituted towards the establishment of peace and that Syrian and Lebanese tracks achieve progress," King Hussein said.

## Tourism first fruit of peace moves

(Continued from page 1)

referring to the 1991 Madrid conference that launched Middle East peace talks. "But now the government appears to understand that we have to work together and we are."

Tourism earned the country about \$500 million in 1993 and ministry officials expect the industry to move up from third to first place in terms of bringing in foreign currency to the country in peace time.

But at the same time they also insist they are not looking for mass tourism and are concerned with striking a balance between the economic benefits and protecting Jordan's cultural and historical sites from overdevelopment.

The tourism committee, a sub-committee of the economic committee formed at the trilateral meeting at the Dead Sea last month, has held two "businesslike and friendly" meetings, as one participant described the gatherings, and has agreed on a marketing strategy.

Both sides have agreed to launch a "peace trip" in the United States to market the region. This will benefit Jordan, which is weak in the U.S. attracting about 50,000 visitors in 1993, or 1.7 per cent of total tourists.

The English-Spanish language promotion, which will target American Jews, Catholics and Protestants, is seen as a launching pad for joint cooperation.

Unlike some of the grandiose projects envisioned in peace time, which will cost billions of dollars and may remain on the drawing board, investment in small-scale infrastructure pro-

jects is likely to fuel a boom in the Gulf of Aqaba, which will also operate as a free zone.

Among the most talked about projects are shared use of airports, ports, roads, joint management of water, cooperation to protect the delicate marine life of the Gulf and a 15-kilometre Taba-Eilat-Aqaba road snaking round the Gulf of Aqaba.

Although one Jordanian negotiator said that "both sides have the same goals," there is a fear that Jordan may be the weak leg of the envisioned Red Sea tourism triangle between Aqaba, Eilat and the Egyptian resort of Taba unless the government invests huge funds in infrastructure projects.

"Eilat is everything, Aqaba is not," said another businessman. "The (Israeli) have the hotels, the restaurants, the infrastructure and the social climate conducive to tourism. Tourists may come to Aqaba out of curiosity but then they will go back to Eilat unless we do something to keep them here."

Ministry of Tourism officials say they are trying to do what they can with the little they have. Archaeological and religious sites in north and central Jordan are getting better on-site information, including new brown and white tourism signs, restaurants and souvenir shops. The ministry said it was targeting other sites for improvement including Umm Qas, Ajloun with its many 12-century castles, Madaba with its mosaic-tiled Mount Nebo Church, where Moses was buried, and Mugawar, the site of the beheading of

John the Baptist.

The highly developed Eilat with 6,000 rooms, which will double within five years, receives over a half million visitors a year. There are no accurate figures as to how many tourists come to Aqaba, which has 1,200 rooms.

"In the short run, Aqaba will lose out to Eilat but I am optimistic that in the long run it will gain," said Abdul Aziz Kabariti, owner of the Coral Beach Hotel in Aqaba, and a negotiator on the tourism committee.

"We know what is needed and a change will be forced upon us, it is inevitable," said Mr. Kabariti who is building a new luxury hotel in Petra.

Some Aqaba hoteliers admit that their mostly shabby hotels need a facelift in order to compete with their more luxurious Eilat counterparts. But they insist that government must give incentives to the private sector and reduce high customs duties on imports so they can afford to make improvements or the gap will widen as the tourist boom unfolds in Eilat.

Other tour operators also complain of having to make their way through a tangled bureaucracy with unnecessary time-consuming regulations imposed by the Ministry of Interior.

"There are many areas where we can improve regulations to facilitate the work of the industry as a whole, we are in the process of putting in new legislation to remedy such bureaucratic complications in cooperation with the private sector," Minister Adwan said.

"It is our oil," he said. "We have to exploit it."

## Abequa children flown out

(Continued from page 1)

found stuffed under a bed two days later.

Mr. Abequa, a naturalised American citizen, was arrested July 20 and later confessed to his crime. He has been charged with first-degree murder and kidnapping.

The United States has requested his extradition, but in the absence of such a treaty, Jordanian officials said he would be tried in Amman.

After Mr. Abequa's arrest, the children were put in the care of their paternal grandmother, Samiha, who had vowed not to let them go back with their aunt without a ruling from an Islamic Sharia court. There was no court hearing.

Ms. Dukar flew in earlier this month at the invitation of His Majesty King Hussein to provide evidence that she was financially able to care for her niece and nephew.

Last week, under pressure from the government, the children were put under government care and a tightly guarded apartment was provided for them and their aunt.

Mr. Abequa's sister, Mariam, told the Associated Press that she, her two brothers and their mother went to visit the children at their safe-house in a posh Amman suburb Wednesday afternoon.

The visitors only found two plainclothes policemen in the flat. The children were already gone.

"We asked the policemen where the children were, and they responded that they did not know," she said by telephone. "My mother was extremely upset and broke down — she collapsed."

She said her brothers, Ahmad and Adnan, "got into an argument with the policemen, who arrested them."

Family members said the whereabouts of the two were not known by late Wednesday.

Hasna Abequa, another sister, said: "We will pursue this matter with the authorities and we will try to resist this decision."

Earlier Wednesday, about 100 relatives of the Abequas staged a three-hour sit-in outside Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali's office demanding that the children stay in Jordan.

The crowd waved banners that read: "Our children are not for bargaining," and "Sami and Lisa are our children."

The demonstrators, headed by members of the Abequa family, asked to

meet with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali.

The demonstrators were met by Minister of State Abdullah Jazi who asked five Abequa family members to negotiate the matter inside the ministry.

Mrs. Abequa and another family member said they would not enter unless they meet the prime minister.

After three hours, the Abequa members who were negotiating with Mr. Jazi and Minister of State Abdul Baqi Jamhori, left the Prime Ministry without having met Mr. Majali.

"The prime minister refused to meet us, but we were told that a date will be set to meet with King Hussein," said Adnan Abequa before walking away with his sobbing mother.

A family member told the Jordan Times that he had learned that a decision was already taken on the children's fate, and that today's negotiations were held to pressure the Abequa family into signing a waiver relinquishing their claims to Lisa and Sami. No government officials were reached Wednesday evening to comment on the case.

Meanwhile, Dr. Majali Wednesday was quoted in an interview in Al Aswaq newspaper as saying, that "the Jordanian law requires that the maternal grandmother has priority, if not, the maternal aunt is next."

In the interview, Dr. Majali said that Jordan would not hand over Mr. Abequa to the U.S. authorities.

In Washington, a spokesman for Senator Frank Lautenberg, Democrat-New Jersey, said the children will spend the night in Germany and fly to Newark Thursday.

Mr. Lautenberg, who sent an aide to assist Ms. Dukar in Jordan, said the family had to live under virtual house arrest in an "almost intolerable" flat in Amman that lacked air conditioning despite 110-degree temperatures, and was infested with bugs and rats.

Mr. Lautenberg said he spoke to Ms. Dukar in Greece, where the flight from Amman stopped to refuel.

Rep. Robert Torricelli, Democrat-N.J., said the return of Mr. Abequa for trial in the United States appears doubtful although he and other lawmakers pledged to keep trying.

"While this is a moment of some triumph... it is still only the halfway mark in providing justice," Mr. Torricelli said. "That which is being offered in Jordan is an insult to the life of a woman who was brutally murdered."











## Janet Evans wins 40th U.S. title

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — Janet Evans, the greatest woman distance freestyle swimmer in the history of the sport, won her 40th U.S. national title Tuesday at the U.S. Swimming Championships.

Evans, 22, led from start to finish to win the 400-metre freestyle in 4:08.78. The world record-holder in the event for the past six years, Evans tied 200-metre butterfly world record holder Melvin Stewart for most national titles with 40. It was also her 11th national title in the 400 freestyle.

Evans has won 24 of 25 major national and international titles in this event since the 1986 Goodwill Games.

The seven-day U.S. nationals are the selection meet for the world championships in Rome and part of the selection process for the March 11-26 Pan American Games in Mar del Plata, Argentina.

The duel expected between

Evans and 16-year-old schoolgirl Cristina Teuscher, winner of Monday night's 200-metre freestyle event, never materialised. Teuscher finished a distant second in 4:11.20.

"I heard so much about this race I was going to have and I got to the 200 and no one was there," Evans said. "I just swam to get through the race. I think the swimmers are lying in wait for the world championships. In three weeks I swim against the world."

Said Teuscher: "I was just so nervous trying to live up to other people's expectations instead of my own. I was really nervous swimming against Janet."

Evans, a four-time Olympic gold medalist, said she will determine whether she remains in the sport through the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta after she competes in the world championships. "It would be great to win a fifth Olympic gold medal and

be a little part of history," Evans said.

A fifth Olympic gold medal would tie Evans with speed-kater Bonnie Blair for the most in U.S. women's Olympic history.

"I've accomplished everything I can in this sport," Evans said. "I think right now everything I do is icing on the cake. I'm trying to take things with a lighter attitude. I just want to have fun with it now. That's what's keeping me in it."

Other winners Tuesday night were: Lea Loveless in the 100-metre backstroke in 1:01.73 Brad Bridgewater in the 200-metre backstroke in 1:59.21 and Gary Hall in the 100-metre freestyle in 49.31.

A maximum of 26 men and 26 women will be selected for the U.S. world championships team — first through fourth-place finishers in the 100 and 200-metre freestyles and all event winners. Top two in all other individual events also qualify.

## Mansell is again in focus of Formula One rumours

LONDON (AP) — Depending on whom you believe, British driver Nigel Mansell is either about to sign one of the richest contracts in sports history... or be put out to pasture.

Several British newspapers Tuesday reported that Mansell, the former Formula One and Indy-car champion, has agreed to a three-year, £30-million (\$45 million) deal to drive for the Williams-Renault team starting in 1995.

Other papers, however, reported that team chairman Frank Williams has soured on the idea of having Mansell return, and that Mansell's current Indy-car team, Newman-Haas, is already planning on replacing him in its driver lineup for next year.

That would leave retirement as a likely scenario for the 41-year-old driver, the reports said.

The people most likely in the know, at least on this side of Atlantic, weren't shedding any light on the latest rumours.

"It's complete and pure speculation," Williams spokeswoman Barbara Prydzdek said. "We don't know where the stories have popped up from."

Prydzdek denied that any contract had been signed for Mansell to return next year, although she reaffirmed previous comments made by Williams that "there is a possibility" Mansell will drive the final three Formula One races of the current season.

Once again, according to Prydzdek, nothing has been finalised. But such talk was not ab-



Nigel Mansell

out to stop the British tabloids from jumping on the Mansell bandwagon.

"Mansell returns," was the headline in the Daily Mail, which, like some other papers, worked its story around a quote from Newman-Haas team member Bert Thomas.

"We believe a deal has been done between Carl Haas and Formula One and it will be left to him to make the announcement shortly," Thomas was quoted as saying. "We're close to finalising a deal with Carl for next year which would allow us to announce the driver lineup for 1995."

Other papers, including the tabloid Today and the more sober Guardian, painted a less-than-rosy picture for Mansell's return.

"I believe Frank is starting to go cold on the idea of

having Nigel back permanently," according to a source "close to the Williams team" in Today.

Such rampant speculation surrounding Mansell has become a familiar fixture of the current Formula One season since the death of Williams driver Ayrton Senna at the San Marino Grand Prix May 1.

After two months of rumours and amid much hype, Mansell eventually signed a one-race deal, worth a reported \$1 million, to drive for Williams at the French Grand Prix July 3, a race that did not qualify, but failed to finish the race.

Mansell drove for the Williams team from 1985-88 and again from 1991-92, winning the world title in the final season before moving to Indy cars.

## Vietnam, hopes to see more international events

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (R) — Vietnam, distracted and isolated by war for decades, is starting to see more international sports events now that its economy is growing and opening to the outside world.

It is a development that most of the 72 million Vietnamese welcome.

"Sport has really touched the hearts of the Vietnamese people and they want to see high class, high performance athletes in action," said Ian Billingham, whose Hong Kong-based International Management Group helped find sponsors for the recent world cup badminton tournament staged here.

The Vietnamese are keen on sport. People hit shuttlecocks in the streets and small boys play football.

Vietnamese in their mil-

lions followed the World Cup soccer finals live on television for the first time this year.

But playing facilities and cash for equipment are limited in what remains one of the world's poorest countries.

Following a table tennis world cup tournament in December 1992, the badminton event was only the second in which fans could see a sport's top players in action in Vietnam.

Both Vietnamese players in the badminton tournament, a man and a woman, were beaten in the first round. For spectator Hoang Loc, 60, it was an eye-opener which made him realise how far the Vietnamese are behind the top world players.

Loc said: "You don't need to be physically strong or have a lot of equipment to play this sport. I can't under-

stand why the gap is so big."

Pham van Kiet, vice-chairman of the Vietnam Olympic Committee, predicted that in seven to 10 years, with international help, Vietnam would catch up with its Asian neighbours.

Vietnamese won the under-16 world chess championship and three Asian chess titles last year. A Vietnamese woman won the world championship in wushu, an Asian martial art. Neither sport has a high-profile.

Promoters see lack of stadiums and sponsorships as big difficulties but predict a good future for international events.

Bruce Aitken, says it needs more venues such as an indoor stadium to hold 10,000 people.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Maradona ordered to pay \$40,000

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) — Argentina captain Diego Maradona has been ordered to pay \$40,000 by a court here for firing an air rifle at journalists, injuring five. Maradona opened fire in February on journalists besieging his home in one of the city's exclusive suburbs after he quit his club, Newells Old Boys. The court said the player must pay the sum or face one year's jail. Maradona plans to appear in Zurich Aug. 26 at a hearing of FIFA, football's world governing body, into his drug-taking at the World Cup. The midfielder star was banned from the tournament after testing positive for the stimulant ephedrine.

### Brazil soccer team pays fraction of duties

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — It wasn't the treasure hunt Brazil's Internal Revenue Service had hoped for. After searching weeks for 17.4 tonnes of personal items brought by Brazil's World Cup soccer team from the United States, tax men received only a fraction of the \$1 million in customs duties on the excess luggage. Just \$55,000, to be exact. "At least we minimised our losses," said Silvio Costa, the federal tax secretary. Airport officials said the presidential palace told them to allow the baggage to pass through customs unopened when the players returned from winning Brazil's fourth World Cup. The incident triggered a scandal that touched the president, the finance minister and the head of the Brazilian Soccer Confederation. The top tax official quit in disgust. A court order in early August allowed tax agents to search the homes of the 93 players, staff and guests of the team's delegation aboard the plane. But Costa said the inspectors had little recourse but to accept each individual's own declarations and a list from the Brazilian Soccer Confederation. Lateral defender Branco paid about \$10,000 in duties on items that refurnished his entire kitchen. Head coach Carlos Alberto Parreira wrote out a check for \$4,400 to cover duties on computer and printer. Brazilian law permits citizens to bring up to \$500 worth of items purchased abroad into the country duty free.

### S. Africa's Brian Mitchell plans comeback

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Retired South African boxer Brian Mitchell, who held two world titles, plans a comeback as a welterweight in November, his promoter said Tuesday. "Brian has closely followed the fortunes of the current crop of welterweight champions and feels he can beat the lot," promoter Rodney Berman told reporters. Mitchell, who will turn 33 at the end of the month, has a record of 43 victories, three draws and one defeat. He captured the WBA junior lightweight title by knocking out Panama's Alfredo Layne in September 1986 and took IBF version off Tony Lopez on points in 1991. Berman said Mitchell's first fight in November would be a warm-up but the boxer hoped for an eventual match against WBC champion Pernell Whitaker.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Hebron mosque will reopen soon — Rabin

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has promised to reopen before Sept. 5 the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron where more than 30 Arab worshippers were shot dead in February, Israeli Television said Tuesday. Mr. Rabin told an ultra-orthodox Jewish deputy that the site would be reopened before the Jewish New Year or Rosh Hashana, the television said. Jews and Muslims, who both worshipped at the complex, have called for its reopening for several months but Israeli authorities have categorically refused. The Israeli army has been carrying out work on the site to separate Jewish and Muslim worshippers, as recommended by a government commission which investigated the massacre. The commission's report at the end of June said the Feb. 25 massacre was carried out solely by Israeli settler Baruch Goldstein, who lived in nearby Kfar Arba. Jews and Muslims pray in separate rooms inside the complex, where Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are buried.

## Lebanese guerrillas detonate bombs

MARIJAYOUN (AP) — Guerrillas detonated two roadside bombs in Israel's self-designated "security zone" in the south Wednesday. A pro-Israeli militia reported no casualties. The explosions were claimed by Hizbollah whose Shiite Muslim guerrillas have been waging war to evict Israel from the occupied zone. Security sources said the bombs went off as two patrols of Israel's surrogate militia, the South Lebanon Army (SLA), were driving separately from the village of Kfar Houna to the town of Jezzine. The SLA's Voice of the South radio station said there were no casualties in the blasts at 1:30 p.m. (1030 GMT) and five minutes later. On Tuesday, three SLA militiamen were killed and two wounded in a similar attack, the deadliest since U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher last week wound up his fourth peace mission in the region.

## No changes to charter before withdrawal — Kaddoumi

NICOSIA (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) cannot strike out of its charter articles calling for the destruction of Israel as long as it occupies Palestinian territory, a senior PLO official said Wednesday. Faruk Kaddoumi, who acts as the PLO's "foreign minister," told Radio Monte-Carlo: "We can only after the charter if Israel withdraws from our lands and a comprehensive peace is signed." Mr. Kaddoumi, who is still based at the old PLO headquarters in Tunis, was responding to calls from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin insisting that the PLO make the changes. "The PLO pledged to remove from its charter the paragraphs calling for the destruction of the State of Israel almost a year ago," Mr. Rabin's spokesman Oded Ben Ami said Tuesday. When Israel and the PLO exchanged letters of recognition on Sept. 9, 1993, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said in his message to Mr. Rabin that the chapters "denying Israel's right to exist were from now on null and void." But no progress has so far been made on modifying the 33-article charter which was drawn up by a PLO congress in 1964 in Jerusalem and revised in 1968. The letters of recognition opened the way towards the signing of the declaration of principles and the May 4 autonomy accord launching Palestinian self-rule in the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

## U.N. probes human rights in southern Iraq

TEHRAN (AFP) — A U.N. fact-finding team has arrived in Iraq to investigate reports of human rights violations in southern Iraq, an Iraqi opposition group said here Wednesday. The Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) said the U.N. team, which arrived in Tehran on Monday, had left early Wednesday for Iraqi refugee camps in the border province of Khuzestan. The team would question witnesses about the human rights situation in Iraq, during visits to the camps of Ban Al Najjar and Motahari. SCIRI has repeatedly accused the Iraqi army of attacking villages in Iraq's southern marshlands and committing atrocities against the mainly Shiite Muslim population. Baghdad crushed a Shiite rebellion following Iraq's defeat in the Gulf War in February 1991. There have since been pockets of resistance among the Shiites hiding out in the marshes. Camps in Iraq's southwestern province of Khuzestan host around 10,000 Iraqi refugees, forced out by army offensives.

## Thousands attend Zia memorial

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Thousands of Pakistanis flocked Wednesday to the grave of former ruler, General Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, as the country's main opposition party used the anniversary of his death to denounce Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Addressing the emotional crowd, opposition leader Nawaz Sharif and Zia's eldest son, Mohammad Ejaz Ul Haq, bitterly attacked Mr. Bhutto and President Farooq Ahmad Leghari. General Zia, who died six years ago, was responsible for removing Mr. Bhutto's father from power and later executing him. Earlier Wednesday, Ejaz Ul Haq led a long motorcade to the tomb of his father from nearby Rawalpindi. In his hard-hitting speech, Mr. Sharif denounced Mr. Leghari and Mr. Bhutto as corrupt, incompetent and dishonest and said if the present government continued in power, it would bring disaster to Pakistan.

## Sri Lanka opposition wins election

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka's opposition People's Alliance won Tuesday's general election with 105 seats in the 225-seat parliament against the ruling United National Party's 94, according to official election results. The People's Alliance ally the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress won seven seats, while an independent Tamil group standing in the north and allied to the ruling party got nine. Two other Tamil parties, the Tamil United Liberation Front and the Democratic People's Liberation Front won five and three seats respectively. An independent group standing in the Central Hills won one seat and a fringe leftist group won one seat in the southern Hambantota district (see inside for earlier story).

## Israel appoints envoy to Taiwan

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli foreign ministry has for the first time named a representative to Taiwan, the newspaper Haaretz reported Wednesday. It said the appointment was not made public, following the establishment of diplomatic relations with China in January 1992 on condition that Israel did not set up the same links with Taiwan. The representative, Ilan Maor, will serve as an economic expert at the Israeli interests section in Taipei, which was created in 1992 under Israel's centre for exports. "The duties of Mr. Maor will cover only economic issues," Haaretz quoted an official as saying. But the paper added that he could take up a diplomatic role at a later date.

## Senior PLO official to visit Japan

TOKYO (AFP) — A senior Palestinian economics official is to visit Japan later this month for talks with Japan's foreign minister and trade officials, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. Ahmad Quriea, a member of the Palestinian Authority and director general of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Department of Economic Affairs and Planning, is due here between August 21-24, the ministry said. He is scheduled to hold talks with Japan's Foreign Minister Yohel Kono and exchange views with senior officials from the international trade and industry ministry.

## Israel to free 249, agrees on crossings

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (Agencies) — Israel is to release 249 Palestinian prisoners and has agreed on how to share control of border crossings and run safe passages between the self-rule areas, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres announced here Wednesday.

"We have agreed on the rules and regulations of safe passages between Gaza and Jericho," running across Israeli territory, he told reporters during a break in a meeting of the Israeli-Palestinian liaison committee.

Mr. Peres also said two Palestinian police officers would be posted at border crossings between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, and across the King Hussein Bridge which links Jordan and the West Bank town of Jericho.

When asked when these

officers could be deployed, he replied: "They can do it tomorrow."

"We have also agreed on the release of 249 prisoners," he said, adding that none of them would be members of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), which is violently opposed to the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy deal.

Negotiations for the release of more prisoners would continue next week, he said.

Mr. Peres said the latest points were being communicated over the telephone to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat by the Palestinian negotiators in Egypt's Mediterranean city of Alexandria.

Under an agreement signed in May, Palestinians have taken over from Israel in the self-rule areas of

Gaza and Jericho. The Alexandria talks are expected to focus on issues left unresolved from that agreement and the transfer of power to Palestinians in five spheres of life in the rest of the West Bank.

Chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath demanded on Tuesday that the Alexandria talks be used to set a clear date for the transfer, known as early empowerment, saying the PLO "will not accept any further delay."

Mr. Peres said Israel expected Palestinian authorities in Gaza and Jericho "to take all the necessary measures to provide full security to people."

But he denied the Palestinian authorities were being squeezed on one side by militants who reject the peace accord and Israeli calls for greater security on the other.

"We are not pressing ... we do not intend to press and we came here with a clear aim to negotiate," Mr. Peres said.

He said in return for assurances of tighter Palestinian security control Israel "has to contribute whatever we can to improve the economic story ... to improve the early empowerment in the other parts of the West Bank."

The five powers, outlined in an 11-month-old peace deal, are education, health, social affairs, taxation and tourism. Israel and the PLO said they were nearing agreement on expanding self-rule to the West Bank.

Both sides say the main obstacle is the handover of responsibility for direct taxation of the West Bank's nearly one million Palestinians. The Palestinian authority needs to raise funds

for setting a mechanism for collecting taxes and hiring employees.

The Gaza Strip could erupt into violence if the economic situation does not improve, a member of the Palestinian authority warned Wednesday.

"If people do not have bread the inhabitants of Gaza could kill each other," Jamil Harara, head of the authority's investment department, told the Jerusalem-based Palestinian daily Al Quds.

"This could lead to chaos, riots and tension," he said.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has estimated the unemployment rate in Gaza at 41 per cent.

So far the Palestinians have received only a small portion of the \$720 million in aid pledged by international donors

## COLUMN

## Scientists find breast cancer 'marker'

SYDNEY (R) — Australian scientists say they have found a breast cancer "marker" gene that may allow them to predict survival more accurately and improve drug therapies. The gene, Cytin Di, causes breast cancer cells to multiply more rapidly if it is over-abundant in breast tissue, they say. "This is a gene that belongs to a family of genes that are important in the control of growth in cells as primitive as yeasts right through to humans," Rob Sutherland, professor of biology at Sydney's Garvan Institute of Medical Research, said in a radio interview Wednesday. "What that means is that it's a very important gene, or it wouldn't have been conserved over that millennia of evolution," Prof. Sutherland said. "Consequently if something goes wrong with such a critical gene, it's likely to be involved in the loss of normal growth control, which is really the molecular characteristics of cancer," he said. High rates of Cytin Di in breast cancer patients may make it possible to determine the speed of development of the cancer and give doctors a better idea of how patients would respond to drug treatment, the scientists say.

## Chinese army hits low note

BEIJING (R) — The army in one southern Chinese military region has been told to prune its growing business empire by closing karaoke bars, saunas, parlours and other ventures it owns. The Yangcheng Evening News of Guangzhou said the Guangzhou Military Region had ordered a withdrawal from 69 ventures which the army had set up with local governments. Units had also been told to close four futures trading companies they had set up and withdraw all military manpower and equipment from them. The region has also ordered a crackdown on military businesses involved in tourism and entertainment in Shenzhen and on Hainan Island. Army-run karaoke bars, beauty parlours, saunas and other "special" projects were ordered to shut, the paper added, saying these had harmed the good name of the military.

## China's population aging dramatically

BEIJING (AFP) — China's population is aging at an alarming rate, with 250 million people expected to be over 65 years old by 2025, Xinhua quoted a new report as indicating. The number of old people in China — where the overall population is now nearly 1.2 billion — is expanding faster than in any other country in the world and will by 2025 account for 24 per cent of the global total, the report by the Beijing Centre of Gerontology was cited as saying. The report said the proportion of the Chinese population over 65 would increase from 10 per cent to 20 per cent in just 21 years, while a similar process took 85 years in Sweden and 32 years in Japan. It added that China was the only one of the world's 57 countries classified as having an aged population that did not have a per capita gross national product of at least \$1,000. The report is aimed at providing data of policy-making by the government which has been seeking ways to develop the country's fledgling social security system amid increasingly concern about the so-called "white wave" phenomenon.

## Body of climber missing since 1977 found

CHAMONIX, France (AFP) — The body of an Austrian climber who disappeared in 1977 has been found in a crevasse in the Mont Blanc region, rescue services said Tuesday. Officials said the corpse was that of one of two climbers thought to have fallen in the crevasse while traversing a glacier. The body of the other climber was found in the region last summer. The identity of the climber was not released as the family had not yet been informed, the official said.

## Iran-Argentina tension mounts

TEHRAN (Agencies) — A diplomatic crisis escalated Wednesday after Argentine President Carlos Menem renewed allegations of Iranian involvement in the bombing of a Jewish charity in Buenos Aires.

The Argentine ambassador in Iran, Mario Quadri del Castillo, left for home following his second recall since the July 18 deadly blast.

The diplomat, who was first recalled on July 27, has again been called home for consultations, only days after he returned to Iran.

After weeks of escalating tension over the bombing allegations and Iranian denials, Tehran and Buenos Aires recalled their top envoys on Tuesday for "political consultations."

The top Iranian envoy in Argentina, Hadi Soleimani-Pur, was expected to arrive here late Wednesday.

Foreign diplomats in Tehran said the moves were a sign of deteriorating relations and that the two countries might have decided to scale down diplomatic ties.

"Now everything is possible. This is a prelude to a serious crisis," a Western diplomat said. "The recollections

are a sign that a problem of dialogue is surfacing" between the two countries.

Mr. Menem renewed the charges against Iran on Tuesday and said the authorities in Argentina had found "new proof" linking Iranians to the attack but would await the outcome of their investigation.

Judge Juan Jose Galeano named seven Iranian officials in his report into the attack on the Argentine Jewish Mutual Association, which killed at least 95 people, left 10 missing and injured 250.

He issued international warrants for the arrest of four officials: three former diplomats and a member of parliament.

Three diplomats serving in Buenos Aires are also under investigation.

Iran has strongly denied any involvement in the attack, denouncing the allegations as a "conspiracy." It has maintained the four wanted Iranians were not even in Argentina at the time the attack took place.

A leading Iranian deputy, Saeed Rajai-Khorasani, charged Wednesday the allegations were made under pressure from Israel and the

United States and were aimed at forcing Iran to join the Middle East peace process.

"This propaganda is completely unfounded and the sole aim is to pressure Iran politically," he told Abrar newspaper.

Iran is fiercely opposed to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, branding the Middle East peace process sponsored by the United States and Russia as capitulation.

Mr. Rajai-Khorasani, a member of the Iranian parliament's foreign affairs subcommittee, challenged Argentina to produce evidence linking Iran to the attack and for the main witness, Manoucher Motamer, to be interviewed.

Described by Iran as a con man and a U.S. agent, Mr. Motamer is an Iranian defector whose testimony Mr. Galeano used in his report implicating the Iranians in the attack.

An Iranian justice official in the central city of Esfahan, where Mr. Motamer supposedly lived before leaving Iran, said Tuesday that the defector was being sought at home on charges of bribery, embezzlement and

forgery. Mr. Motamer was an "unemployed charlatan" who often posed as a government employee, he said, adding that numerous suits had been filed against him.

"The appropriate authorities should take legal action for his extradition," it quoted the official identified only as Davdakil, in charge of Mr. Motamer's case in Isfahan.

Mr. Davdakil said in one case before the 26th branch of the Tehran penal court type one, Mr. Motamer was freed on bail of 100 million rials (\$57,000) in July 1992. He branded Mr. Motamer an impostor who introduced himself as a government security agent or employee of various ministries.

Iran's Chief Justice Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi urged Argentine authorities to pay "greater attention to justice and not be influenced by political and economic powers."

He said the four Iranian officials sought by Argentina had filed a libel suit against Mr. Galeano for defamation of character.

Six Lebanese living in Pa-

(Continued on page 3)

## U.S., S. Korea say North must allow all checks

SEOUL (Agencies) — The U.S. and South Korean presidents reaffirmed Wednesday that North Korea must allow inspections of all its nuclear sites before it can receive replacement nuclear reactors.

"They fully agreed that only when North Korea fully guarantees the transparency of its nuclear programme will it receive a light-water reactor," presidential spokesman Choo Don-Shik said.

During a 40-minute telephone conversation with President Kim Young-Sam, U.S. President Bill Clinton also spoke highly of the U.S.-North Korea talks held in Geneva last week, Mr. Choo said.

Mr. Kim said Seoul was willing to fund the new reactor for the North in order to encourage isolated North Korea to begin reforms, Mr. Choo said.

But the United States and Japan should also help fund the reactor, said Vice-Prime Minister Lee Hong-Koo.

"The North Korean nuclear problem is not just a Korean issue, but an international problem," Mr. Lee said at a news briefing in calling on the two countries to help pay for the reactor. Mr. Lee, who also heads the unification ministry, did not say how much he thought the two countries should fund, saying instead that the contributions should "reflect their status as interested parties."

On Monday, Mr. Kim offered to provide the north with a \$2 billion light-water reactor if the communist country proves that it has not been making nuclear weapons.

The light-water reactor produces less plutonium, a main ingredient in making

nuclear weapons. North Korea has said it will shut off its current graphite-based reactor, but only if it receives a replacement.

The agreement could help settle the 18-month-old controversy over the North's nuclear programme.

While South Korea has welcomed the reactor deal, some have become wary that South Korea may end up paying for a large portion of the reactor.

Fyongyang has denied making nuclear weapons, but has refused inspections by the international watchdog agency that could clear up suspicions. U.S. officials have said that North Korea has extracted enough plutonium to make one or two bombs.

The United States and North Korea are to resume talks next month to iron out details of the accord.

## Computer wargame

South Korea and the United States will launch an annual command post exercise next week, featuring a sophisticated computer-simulated war game, military authorities announced.

"The Republic of Korea government and (U.S.-South Korea) Combined Forces Command (CFC) will conduct their annual command post exercise, Ulchi Focus Lens (UFL), Aug. 22 to Sept. 4," a CFC statement said.

A spokesman for the U.S. forces stationed here said the exercise would not involve sending any troops into the field and was aimed at testing command post doctrine.

The entire 650,000-member South Korean military and 36,000 U.S. troops stationed here under a mutual defence treaty plan to participate in the exercises.

## PFLP assails Sudan for handing over Carlos

DAMASCUS (R) — A Palestinian group which taught "Carlos the Jackal" his guerrilla trade condemned Sudan on Wednesday for handing him to France.

The Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) led by George Habash praised Carlos, whose real name is Illich Ramirez Sanchez, and expressed its solidarity with him.

"The PFLP condemns the handover of Carlos and considers it as a cheap action against an international struggle who served liberation movements," a spokesman for the group told Reuters.

He said Carlos, who appeared in court in France on Tuesday after his capture in Sudan on Monday, had joined the PFLP in the late 1960s but ended his ties with the group in the early 1970s.

"The Sudanese government could have asked Carlos to leave the country had his presence constituted a danger or had it faced any pressure," the PFLP spokesman said.

PFLP leader Habash himself created a political crisis in France in February 1992

when he was rushed to a Paris hospital for treatment after a stroke.

The government was slammed for allowing the PFLP leader to enter France and the opposition called for his arrest and trial. Dr. Habash was deported and several high-ranking French officials including a presidential advisor were sacked over the affair.

"No links or ties have existed with Carlos since he left the group. But we express our solidarity with him," the PFLP spokesman said.

Palestinian sources say Carlos continued to work with the PFLP's military commander Wadie Haddad after both ended their ties with the PFLP in 1973.

Haddad, who led spectacular attacks against Israeli and Western targets, was the young Carlos's guardian after he joined the PFLP.

Haddad took Carlos with him when he left the PFLP in 1973 because Haddad refused to abide by the group's decision to halt attacks outside what it regarded as Palestinian territory.

Haddad was officially suspended from the PFLP's cen-

tral committee in 1977. He died in an East German hospital in the late 70s and was buried in Baghdad. His membership was posthumously restored in 1993.

The sources said Haddad expelled Carlos from his faction over differences in the handling of Carlos's most spectacular operation in which he kidnapped 11 OPEC ministers in Vienna in 1975.

"Haddad was unhappy about Carlos' acceptance of money to end the operation peacefully," said a Palestinian source who asked not to be named.

Both Haddad and Carlos agreed originally that the operation should have two aims. First to force the OPEC countries to raise oil prices and second to execute the Iranian minister (Jamshid) Amouzegar at the time who was a member of Iran's secret service Savak," he said.

A PFLP official said the group decided to stop its external operations against Israeli and Western interests "after the bad consequences became more than the merits."

They said the group wanted by its external opera-

tions to make the Palestinian cause known to the world.

One such operation was the September 1970 hijacking to Jordan of four Western airliners with over 500 people aboard.

PFLP guerrillas hijacked the planes to punish Western governments for supporting Israel, win the release of prisoners and embarrass Jordan.

Three of the aircraft were blown up at a desert landing strip near Zarqa, and the fourth, a Pan American Jumbo, was destroyed in Cairo. No passengers were involved.

The PFLP is part of an alliance of 10 Palestinian groups based in Syria that oppose the peace accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The PFLP now confines its attacks to areas within what it regards as Palestinian territory.

A Sudanese opposition member said on Wednesday that Khartoum may have handed Carlos to France in return for financial credit to help it buy four civilian aircraft.

Eltigani Seisi, a member of the Umma Party and former governor of Sudan's western Darfur region, said Sudan

took possession of four Airbus aircraft earlier this year after buying an under what he termed a "shameful deal."

"At a time when the Sudanese government was isolated by the whole world community, it managed to get access to credit from French banks to purchase (the) aircraft," Mr. Seisi said.

"This was part of the deal over Carlos," he said.

Both France and Sudan have denied any deal was struck between the two countries for the handing over of Carlos.

But his fellow inmates said he was betrayed by France by Sudan's government in exchange for cash and possibly other benefits.

Mr. Seisi said Carlos had been helping authorities in Khartoum.

"We believe Carlos has been training Sudanese security and defence forces. He has also been liaising between the government and various other organisations in the region," he said.

"He had strong relations with Abu Nidal and Abu Jihad so I believe he provided help for some of their cadres to enter Sudan," Mr. Seisi added.